THE TIMES

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Safety fears bring ban on new airport

Collision worries over lack of radar cover

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

All flights between the new London City airport and Paris have been halted on the orders of the Civil Aviation Authority because of fears of a mid-air collision.

The ban on further flights pending an inquiry into en route safety was imposed last night by the authority after two more near misses involving aircraft from London City within the last week.

One of the two airlines flying to Paris from the airport had written to the authority 12 times since operations began from the airport in October expressing concern about safety.

Brymon Airways, which flies six times a day to the French capital and also operates services to Plymouth from the airport, said that it was worried at the lack of radar cover. Its planes had to "eyeball" their way through crowded uncontrolled airspace on their way south.

When aircraft take off from London City they must not fly above 2,500 feet, the lower limit of the London Terminal Manoeuvring Area in which commercial aircraft are guided on to airways.

They must also remain at that level until they are near the south coast when they can climb to 3,500 feet around Seaford and eventually are allowed to join the main airway, Alpha 47, over the Channel when controllers can then handle them up to any height en route to Dieppe and beyond.

Naturally airlines do not like having to fly at this low altitude not only because that is uncontrolled airspace in which gliders or private aircraft can fly using visual flight rules with no reference to air traffic control, but because it is a bumpier ride for their passengers and the aircraft uses more fuel and has to fly more slowly.

It had hoped the authority would change procedures and allow it to join the main London control zone in which it would have been given full radar cover and air traffic control assistance.

But instead Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the authority's chairman, told the airways: "The authority cannot at present be satisfied that any operator is competent to secure the safe operation of aircraft on public transport flights between London City Airport and Paris". He ordered an immediate halt to all further flights.

The ban, which also affects Eurocity Express, which has four flights to and from Paris daily, took immediate effect and led to hurried arrangements having to be made to find alternative flights for hundreds of passengers booked to travel.

A three-man board of inquiry will be held to hear complaints to try to resolve the crisis which could threaten the future of the airport, formally opened by the Queen on November 5.

Concern about air traffic control was one of the main issues raised even before it was given permission to begin operational service.

At a public inquiry in 1983 the Civil Aviation Authority had issued a warning that aircraft would not be allowed into the London control zone — known as the LTMA — for between five and six years.

But the airlines and the airport developers Mowlem were anxious to begin services.

The authority said it was happy with the arrangements which meant that aircraft would have to fly low over central London and then keep low over southern England, threading their way through uncontrolled light aircraft, balloons, parachutists and gliders, until they rejoined the main airways half way across the Channel.

Mr Jonathan Wilson, general manager of Eurocity Express, said last night it would maintain services on the Brussels route which, because of its marketing link with the Belgian airline Sabena, is by far the strongest.

Almost immediately, however, pilots reported having to avoid other aircraft and one formal air miss was reported.

The authority made a study to see if it could bring forward the move to feed the aircraft from London City into the main control zones and onto the airways earlier. But in November it reported that it would be impossible because of a lack of equipment and because the existing terminal area was full.

The response infuriated both Brymon and local air traffic controllers.

Captain Harry Gee, Brymon's flight operations manager, wrote to his own board warning that the system was unsafe.

"From the time Thames Radar Services terminated to the time London Control actually do start controlling there are no radar advisories and we are on our own 'eyeballing' our way along in unprotected airspace which is an area of intense training and on occasions gliding activity", he wrote.

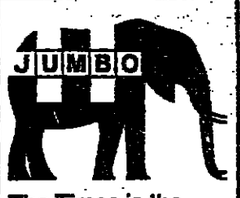
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Bhutto supporters celebrate Karachi wedding



Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistan opposition leader, and her bridegroom, Mr Asif Zardari, smiling at their wedding reception in Karachi yesterday.

Woman dies as crowds go wild

Karachi (Reuter) — The wedding day here of Miss Benazir Bhutto, the head of the Pakistan opposition, was marred yesterday as bullets fired by Kalashnikov-wielding, jubilant supporters in celebration killed a woman spectator.

Witnesses said a burst of fire hit a woman named Salma, who was watching the celebrations from the balcony of her flat opposite the reception ground. Political sources identified her as the wife of a worker for Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

A hospital doctor said that at least 10 people were also hurt falling from a tree and iron railings during a rush to see Miss Bhutto, aged 34, after the Muslim ceremony in which she wed Mr Asif Zardari, a Sindhi businessman.

Miss Bhutto pledged that her arranged marriage would not change her, and said: "Benazir Bhutto doesn't cease to exist the moment she marries, she's the same person. I am keeping my own name."

Several hundred PPP supporters gathered with portraits of the politician and her executed father, the former Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Chanting slogans and waving tricolour party flags, they arrived in lorries, cars, and donkey carts, on bicycles and motor scooters from all over Pakistan and even abroad. Mr Mukhtar Ahmad Mir, an estate agent from Barking, East London, said: "I spent more than £1,000 to come here — and that was just the fares."

He had come with his British-born son to pay tribute to the Bhuttos. "These are poor people," he said, indicating a group of brightly-dressed women. "Bhutto gave them a voice."

The numbers involved were tiny, however, by the standards of Pakistani politics, where rallies can draw upwards of one million people. Across Karachi, in the poor, bustling area of Lyari, several thousand people were gathering for the popular reception to be held later in the day

She had cut down on her jewellery, and insisted that her family paid no dowry, another almost universal custom. "We have tried to make a personal statement that I hope will help both brides and families in Pakistan." She pledged that her marriage, after leading the PPP for eight years as a spinster, would not lessen her campaign to oust President Zia. Miss Bhutto rejected a suggestion that she had given herself away by having an arranged marriage.

£10,000 for sex abuse blunder

A High Court judge yesterday awarded £10,000 to a six-year-old girl and her mother from Cleveland who suffered the torment of a sexual abuse investigation because of a hospital blunder.

Mr Justice Eastham said at Teesside Crown Court that the girl and her mother were the victims of "appalling negligence". He awarded them £5,000 each.

The court was told that a vaginal swab taken from the girl was tested at North Tees General Hospital, Stockton, on the same laboratory slide as a man's sperm sample and it was wrongly concluded that she had been abused. The error occurred because laboratory technicians were ordered to use the slides twice to cut costs.

The girl was kept in hospital for five days for repeated questioning by police and social workers before "this hideous mistake" was discovered, said Mr Alan Ward, QC, for the family.

"The girl was subjected to a further medical examination which left her screaming in pain. She became petrified of doctors and police, suffered nightmares and was preoccupied with sex and examining her own body".

Continued on page 22, col 5

Insider dealer Boesky jailed for three years

From Charles Bremner, New York

Ivan Boesky, the once flamboyant financier at the heart of New York's huge insider-trading scandal, was sentenced yesterday to three years' prison and no fine, a lenient penalty that reflects the fact that he has given prosecutors a detailed picture of wrongdoing by senior Wall Street operators.

Boesky, a 50-year-old immigrant's son from Detroit who once preached a creed that "greed is good", stood motionless and slightly stooped in the Manhattan Federal Court as Judge Morris Lasker told him his offence "cannot go unpunished. Its seriousness was too substantial merely to forgive and to forget".

Under a deal with federal investigators last year, Boesky, who was himself turned in by another arrested financier, pleaded guilty to one charge of conspiring to make a false statement over a share transaction and paid a record civil penalty of $100 million.

He could have received up to five years and a $250,000 fine on the charge, which involved trading in an electrical manufacturers' stock on the London Stock Exchange.

But prosecutors took the unusual step of asking the court for leniency because of "his outstanding cooperation" with the investigation into the biggest web of illicit dealing ever uncovered in the New York financial world. His information helped London police unravel the Guinness affair.

Information from Boesky, known as "Ivan the Terrible" for his ferocious tactics in the,

Floodgates open.....23

takeover business, has led to several arrests. Prosecutors said this week that he had revealed that criminal activity including stock manipulation and fraud was rampant among the most respected Wall Street firms.

The New York financial world, battered by the Wall Street collapse in October, is bracing itself for a round of arrests in the New Year.

His lawyer, Leon Silverman, said yesterday that Boesky had disclosed wrongdoing by five major securities firms as well as 14 "additional subjects" not under investigation when he agreed to co-operate.



Ivan Boesky arriving at court to hear his sentence

The silver-haired Boesky presented himself to the court as a reformed man. Since his deal with the authorities last year he has lived in seclusion, working with the homeless under an assumed name and studying for a degree at a Jewish seminary.

"I just want to say that I am deeply ashamed and I do not understand my behaviour," he told Judge Lasker in a recent hearing. "I have spent the last year trying to understand how I veered off course".

Judge Lasker's lenient treatment has provoked anger among critics who argued that an example was needed to show that rich and powerful criminals did not get off lightly.

Though his lawyer says Mr Boesky is nearly broke, many on Wall Street believe the $100 million penalty has hardly dented Mr Boesky's wealth, which still includes houses in Europe and other countries. He also faces a barrage of civil suits.

His sentence is to start next March in a minimum security prison — a campus-type facility for white-collar offenders that is jocularly known as "Club Fed".

Department of trade victory

Clarke made cities supremo

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister acted to end months of Whitehall bickering over the inner cities initiative yesterday by naming Mr Kenneth Clarke as the minister to co-ordinate and present policy.

The announcment was immediately hailed as a victory by senior sources at the Department of Trade and Industry, where Mr Clarke is Minister, and viewed with some disappointment by officials at the Department of the Environment.

It was also seen as heralding a shift towards a greater emphasis on enterprise and jobs in the inner cities

Mr Clarke yesterday sought to scotch reports of inter-departmental squabbling, saying that none had taken place.

He made clear that final responsibility for the £2 billion set of interlocking schemes covering at least five Government departments would rest with Mrs Thatcher.

His main priority would be to accelerate involvement of the private sector in urban renewal. "The biggest change since the election has been the growing interest of the private sector in working with us", he said. "I intend to build on the contacts I have already developed and to liaise with those companies who have expressed their willingness to support our policies."

Mr Clarke said that in the wake of Labour's election defeat some left-wing councils had turned to the "new realism" and had dropped their past boycotts of Government schemes.

"If councils are prepared to be pragmatic and work with the Government, we have made quite clear that we think partnership with them will support our efforts," he said.

Mr Bryan Gould, Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, was scornful about the announcement.

"It has taken the Prime Minister six months merely to appoint a Minister with responsibility for the inner cities. At this rate the inner cities will wait for ever for the resources and the policy changes which alone can start to grapple with their problems."

Economy is growing at fastest for 14 years

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The economy is growing faster than at any time since early 1973, official figures published yesterday showed. Growth in the year to the third quarter was 5.2 per cent.

In the third quarter alone, the economy grew by 2.2 per cent, although officials said that this probably overstated the underlying growth rate.

In the City, the battle over the control of Britoil, the company formed out of the Government's former North Sea oil interests, hotted up.

BP announced a £2.27 billion bid for Britoil but the Treasury said that the Government would use its "golden share" to prevent any bidder from gaining control.

Britoil shares closed at 421p, nearly 30p below the BP offer price. Shares generally were modestly higher.

Fastest for 14 years, page 23

Kasparov at bay faces final chessboard duel

From Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Seville



Kasparov: Near-impossible task ahead

A haggard Gary Kasparov and a tense but expectant Anatoly Karpov last night faced each other across the chess board in the final game of their marathon duel to decide the world chess crown for three years to come.

In Thursday's dramatic twenty-third game Karpov swept into the lead and Kasparov, the youngest champion in the history of chess, could only retain his title by scoring a victory in last night's game.

A draw was as worthless to him as a loss.

Kasparov, far from heading for devastating complications in this final shoot-out had steered the opening phase into quiet strategic channels.

His strategy was to retain as much material on the board as possible and hope to wear down his opponent in a prolonged war of attrition.

Karpov was initially puzzled by Kasparov's restrained attitude and consumed more than an hour over his early moves. But as the two great champions entered the middlegame Karpov began to look confident and self-assured as he navigated towards the exchange of pieces and consequent draw which would once again elevate him to the status of world champion which he enjoyed uninterrupted from 1975 to 1985.

Kasparov's disaster in this match came on the fateful move 50 of the twenty-third game.

In a tense middlegame situation where Kasparov had ingeniously survived intense pressure to emerge with a substantial counter-attack.

He hurled one of his most valuable units, a rook, into the vitals of Karpov's camp in the mistaken notion that this piece could not be captured.

Karpov promptly proved the champion utterly deluded. He interposed a bishop coup which demolished Kasparov's position, leaving the champion nothing to contemplate but ruins.

Kasparov left the Teatro Lope de Vega, shattered, supported by the arms of two assistants.

Kasparov just might achieve the almost impossible task of winning to order in the final game. Only Emanuel Lasker, the great German champion, had ever accomplished this feat;



Karpov: World chess crown beckons

IN PART 2

Bonus hopes

Insurance company bonuses could be healthy in the new year despite the stock market slide..... Family Money, 28-31

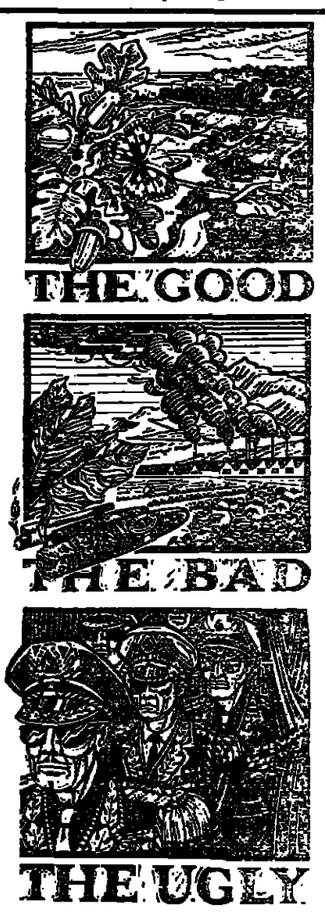
Portfolio

- There is £12,000 to be won in The Times Portfolio Gold competition today, the £4,000 daily prize plus the £8,000 weekly prize. Yesterday's prize was won by a reader from East Sussex. Details page 3
- Portfolio list, page 27. Weekly check, page 29.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Budget cut after research decision

Britain's decision to remain a member of the 14 nation European Laboratory for Particle Research (Cern) was welcomed by the organization's governing council yesterday.

At the same time the council was presented with proposed staff cuts that will mean a reduction in Cern's £325 million budget of around 5 per cent. This is less than the British Government, which pays 14 per cent of Cern's costs, was hoping for.

The cuts will mean a loss of 300 out of Cern's 3,500 staff "with utmost possible speed". The earlier recommendation by the Cern review committee was that up to 500 staff be made redundant.

Dr Herwig Schopper, the director general of Cern, said the cuts would be followed by the engagement of 50 to 60 young staff annually to "rejuvenate" an organization where the average age is 47.

Bus fares may rise

Some concessionary bus fares may be threatened because of budget cuts for the six metropolitan passenger transport authorities. They asked to spend £400 million in 1988-89, but the Secretary of State for Transport wants the limit to be £363 million, £1.1 million less than this year.

Mr Michael Simmons, chairman of the Association of Municipal Authorities public transport committee, said they would not be be able to avoid looking at reductions in services and concessionary fares.

Home for Christmas

Lord Whitelaw, Deputy Prime Minister, who suffered a mild stroke on Monday, will leave Westminster Hospital today to spend the weekend at his London home.

The Leader of the House of Lords will undergo final tests on Monday, a hospital spokesman said. Doctors believe he will be discharged in time for Christmas.

Lord Whitelaw, aged 69, collapsed after reading the lesson at a carol service in St Margaret's Church, Westminster.

Gun runners jailed

Two Ulster "loyalist" gun runners trapped by the Canadian mounted police were jailed for four years at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday.

Trevor Cubbon, a road haulage operator, aged 41, of Kensington, Liverpool, and Albert Watt, from Ontario, were found guilty of conspiring to possess and import firearms and ammunition bound for the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force.

Cubbon's role was discovered after the "Mounties" found a arms cache that included machine guns, anti-tank rockets and thousands of rounds of ammunition.

The plan was to conceal the arms in hollowed-out engines and ship them from Canada to Belfast via Liverpool.

Abortion job lost

A doctor's receptionist dismissed for refusing to type a letter about a patient being considered for an abortion failed to win back her job yesterday.

Mrs Barbara Janaway, a Roman Catholic, claimed that under the Abortion Act, 1967, she was entitled to refuse to do so because of her conscientious objections.

The Court of Appeal upheld the High Court's refusal to grant her a judicial review of Salford Health Authority's decision. But Mrs Janaway, from Cadishead, Manchester, was given leave to appeal to the Lords.

Posting bonus

The early December threat of a postal strike over Christmas has given an unexpected bonus to the last-minute card sender.

The Post Office announced last night that it was extending its last posting date for first-class Christmas mail by three days until Tuesday.

So many people posted early as a precaution that the volume of mail in the past few days has been less than usual. The dispute, over the length of the postal workers' week, was settled on December 4.

Shooting victim dies

A businessman wounded in a double shooting at a children's home three weeks ago has died in hospital. Mr Victor Copperman, proprietor of the Four Elms home for emotionally disturbed children at Stonham Parva, near Ipswich, Suffolk, died on Thursday night. Miss Thea Trevelyan, a teacher, died in the incident.

Mrs Deidre Washington, aged 42, of Longfields, St Osyth, Essex, has been charged with murdering Miss Trevelyan and attempting to murder Mr Copperman. She is due to appear on remand before magistrates at Lowestoft, Suffolk, on December 31.

Professor's invention finds no room in Britain

By Sheila Gunn

A leading British inventor yesterday echoed the despair expressed by the Prince of Wales at the loss of Britain's most exciting ideas to other countries.

For Professor Eric Laithwaite, the "father" of the linear electric motor, has seen the fruits of research ignored in Britain but exploited by Japan, West Germany and the United States.

His new experiments have come to a halt because he can find no room to install a £70,000 machine to test a revolutionary type of gyroscope which could lead to the development of a new source of energy not reliant on nuclear power.

Dr Laithwaite, professor emeritus at Imperial College, London, said: "Prince Charles hit the nail on the head when he said other countries are exploiting our developments.

"It is very frustrating to see Japan, Germany and America developing our ideas such as high-speed transport systems."

He added: "There is never anyone prepared to put enough money into inventions in this country. British firms always want the profit guaranteed by the end of the year or they will not support."

Although the Prince of Wales carefully refrained from naming specific inventors or projects he referred to a Japanese survey which stated that half of the most important discoveries made since the Second World War originated in Britain while the profits had gone abroad.

During recent visits to Japan he found some firms scouting all over the world for technological innovation to exploit.

The professor's troubles began in 1948 when he first trailed his brainchild: a linear electric motor capable of providing a high-speed levitated train.

He sought support in this country in vain. He has since watched his dream become reality with the creation of advanced passenger vehicles using electromagnets.

His prototype linear motor is now housed in Cranfield's museum.

"The linear motor could have gone a lot further than it has if more money had been poured into it to develop the idea at an early stage in the 1960s and 1970s".

He is currently helping a Spanish company design a high-speed train system for Madrid. The shuttle from Birmingham international airport is believed to be the only example of linear motion propulsion working in Britain.

British financiers have contributed £70,000 towards a machine for demonstrating inertial radiation, which he hopes will lead to the development of a new source of energy. However it is lying in boxes at Imperial College.

"I have nowhere to put it There is no room here."

At 66 he has retired as professor of heavy electrical engineering at Imperial College and he emphasized he would be "very reluctant" to take his idea to the US.

Dr Geoffrey Pardoe, a scientific adviser to the Advanced Energy Research Institute, said last night: "We have this tradition of innovative thought either in basic research or, as in the case of Professor Laithwaite, in research applied further into engineering practice, but we lose our nerve".

Swan Hunter gains £110m armed oil ship contract

By John Spicer

The Swan Hunter shipyard on Tyneside has gained a promised £110 million Government contract for a second armed oil replenishment vessel for the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

A dispute developed in April last year after the order for the first vessel went to the government-owned Harland and Wolff yard in Belfast.

The Ministry of Defence promised then that Swan Hunter would be given preference in tendering for the second ship, which will be used to support Royal Navy frigates.

Mr Timothy Sainsbury, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said in a Commons written reply yesterday: "I am pleased to be able to announce that agreement has been reached with Swan Hunter Shipbuilders on a contract for the second auxiliary oiler replenishment vessel. This follows the preferential opportunity given to the company to bid for this order. Construction is expected to begin next year."

Mr Neville Trotter, Conservative MP for Tynemouth, said the announcement meant a happy week for Tyneside. "The dramatic improvement in industrial relations at Swan Hunter has been an important factor. The new leaders of the unions at Swan Hunter have impressed both myself and Mr George Younger, the defence secretary, with their determination to make a success of the yard."

Harland and Wolff, in a terse statement, said: "Against the background of a preferential commitment from the Secretary of State for Defence, it is not surprising that Swan Hunter has been awarded the contract for AOR2 on the basis of a Harland and Wolff design which has been made available to them.

"Nevertheless, it is a very great disappointment for the employees of H and W.

Mr Alex Marsh, chief executive of Swan Hunter, said: "Winning this contract restores our rightful position as the country's leading and most versatile defence contractor".

He said the company would tender to build as many as possible of the Type-23 frigates announced recently by the Ministry of Defence. "The improvements in productivity and overhead costs, in excess of 25 per cent, that has been achieved since privatization, will be used to good effect in offering the MoD good value for money."

The contract for the 30,000-tonne vessel will employ about 800 workers at the yard over four years.

Mr Alan Wilkinson, chairman of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions at the yard, said: "The announcement came as brilliant news and it pays tribute to tremendous team efforts, not just by the management and workforce, but by all our local MPs and everyone who has supported our efforts to win the order".

Science 'brain gains' from US

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A number of leading scientists in plant and animal genetics are expected to return to Britain early next year from the United States. They are being attracted back to the Sainsbury Laboratory at Norwich, the new international centre for research into molecular plant pathology.

Negotiations are still in progress, but Lord Selborne, chairman of the Agriculture and Food Research Council, said yesterday that if they returned it would be a deserved fillip for the morale of scientists in agricultural research who had suffered from cutbacks in research and development.

It was only because the new laboratory had received £15 million from Mr David Sainsbury, through his Gatsby Charitable Foundation, that it could provide the quality of resources for research that originally tempted British scientists to emigrate, Lord Selborne said.

He said his council had achieved in two years the target it set for the proportion of support for research projects coming from industry. It had aimed for £10 million over five years and would aim for £20 million.

Nevertheless, Lord Selborne is still disenchanted with the Government's attitude over the privatization of the Plant Breeding Research Institute at Cambridge. It was built into a highly profitable and leading international organization by the council's scientists but the Treasury pocketed the £65 million from the sale.

Royal tree appeal



The Prince of Wales planting a 24ft lime tree, his personal gift to Hyde Park, yesterday at the feet of Mr Neville Labovitch, chairman of the committee leading a £250,000 campaign to replace trees lost in October's hurricane.

The Prince of Wales' Royal Parks Tree Appeal aims to replace the 5,000 mature trees lost in the royal parks during the storm on October 16. More than 300 trees were lost in Hyde Park.

The Prince said a successful campaign would mean future generations could enjoy the trees of the royal parks as much as the present generation had.

It has been estimated that between 10 and 15 per cent of the tree "canopy" has been lost from the nine parks, St James's, Green Park, Kensington Gardens, Regent's Park, Hyde Park, Hampton Court, Greenwich, Richmond and Bushey. It will take 100 years to replace an 80ft tree and a 40-60ft width of canopy.

Poll tax majority delights leader

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister was delighted yesterday with the Government's majority of 72 in the bitterly contested community charge debate on Thursday night.

But the bitterness among the 17 Conservatives who voted against the Bill and the 15 abstainers was underlined by Mr Edward Heath, the former prime minister, who accused Mrs Margaret Thatcher of treating himself and other dissidents as "the scum of the earth".

As recriminations continued over the poll tax vote yesterday, government sources made clear that there would be no concessions over the central principle of the Bill, which imposes a flat-rate charge irrespective of income. But the new legislation could still encounter serious difficulties in the Lords next year.

The possibility of a climb-down had been floated by senior Conservative backbenchers who, in private talks with Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said they had been led to believe that there would be concessions.

It emerged yesterday that those who had been whipped into line by the Government had apparently misunderstood Mr Ridley's promise to consider their "ability to pay" objections in the committee stage of the Bill.

While he was prepared to re-examine his proposals for rebates for the poor, he would not countenance any shift from the flat-rate principle

Mr Heath, who attacked the community charge measure as being unfair and unworkable, was asked in a BBC radio interview for his reaction to the suggestion that the Prime Minister would be angry with the rebels.

"The Prime Minister can do whatever she likes. As I oppose the Bill, I voted against it.

"This government must abandon its attitude that anybody who disagrees with it is therefore the scum of the earth and has to be publicly ticked off."

Mr Michael Howard, the Local Government Minister, yesterday ruled out a banding system for the community charge.

Holiday plea to stores

Shopworkers' leaders are urging department stores to give their workers a better deal for working at Christmas and the New Year.

Officials of the Union of Distributive and Allied Workers said yesterday that many shop assistants were under pressure to take only one or two days off.

The union said that after seven or eight weeks of hard work up to Christmas their members were under pressure to work even harder to prepare for the sales.

Most big shops plan to open on Bank Holiday Monday (December 28).

Mr Garfield Davies, general secretary of USDAW, said some stores were offering workers willing to work at Christmas and the New Year a good deal, but others were insisting people worked without compensation.

£15m gift to ease price index error

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Government is to give nearly £15 million to charities for distribution to public service pensioners and certain social security claimants as part of its scheme to repay lost benefits resulting from the error in the retail price index.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, disclosed yesterday that Britain's 9.5 million state pensioners will receive a special payment of £8.

The bonus will also go to those receiving widow's benefits, industrial injury benefit, war pensions, invalid care allowance, invalidity benefit, attendance allowance and severe disablement allowance.

People on mobility allowance will receive £5

The Department of Health and Social Security hopes that all claimants will receive the money in the first week of February.

The repayment move was condemned by Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, who said: "The charities, if they accept the money, take on the role of being a bent Robin Hood — of taking money legally due to the poor and distributing it to other poor people".

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IN BRISTOL: AT THE HAWTHORNS HOTEL, WOODLAND RD. CLIFTON. OPEN 9.30-5.30p.m.
IN MAIDENHEAD: AT THE MONKEY ISLAND HOTEL, MONKEY ISLAND LANE, BRAY-ON-THAMES. OPEN 9.30-5.30p.m.

	RRP	SALE PRICE		RRP	SALE PRICE
(VARIOUS COLOURS) FOX JACKETS	£395	£89	FULL LENGTH SCANDINAVIAN BLUE FOX COATS	£1695	£395
¾ LENGTH MUSQUASH JACKETS	£595	£99	FULL LENGTH RACCOON COATS	£1795	£399
¾ LENGTH RACCOON JACKETS	£695	£149	FULL LENGTH TRENCH STYLE RAINCOATS WITH DETACHABLE RACCOON MINK LINING	£1995	£499
DESIGNER LEATHER & FOX JACKETS	£745	£149	FULL LENGTH SILVER FOX COATS	£2495	£499
FULL LENGTH FUR LINED RAINCOATS	£795	£149	FULL LENGTH DESIGNER MINK COATS/FOX TRIM	£2995	£795
MINK JACKETS	£895	£199	SAGA CRYSTAL FOX STROLLERS	£3995	£1295
¾ LENGTH SILVER FOX JACKETS	£1295	£299	FULL LENGTH CANADIAN LYNX COATS	£7995	£1995

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Judge lifts order on journalist

A High Court judge yesterday lifted an order requiring the journalist, Mr Duncan Campbell, to name immediately anyone to whom he might have passed information about the GCHQ communications centre near Cheltenham.

The order was made after the Attorney General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, obtained injunctions, pending a full trial, preventing Mr Campbell from disclosing classified information about the centre.

However in a private hearing yesterday, Mr Justice Turner said the issue of disclosure was not urgent and could be discussed when the case returned to court.

● Sir Patrick, in a Commons written reply yesterday, rejected claims of government interference in a free Press over the legal action concerning Mr Jeremy Warner, who has refused to disclose his sources for articles in *The Times* and *The Independent* relating to insider dealing.

Student grants rise by 4%

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Student grants are to rise by 4 per cent from next September, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

The "bad deal" was attacked by Miss Vicky Phillips, president of the National Union of Students, who said it was the seventh successive year that student grants had risen by less than the inflation rate.

Mr Baker said the grant for undergraduates in England and Wales living in hall or lodgings will be £2,425 in London and £2,050 outside London. The grant for those living at home will be £1,630.

The threshold at which parents are expected to contribute is to be raised by 6.5 per cent. Contributions range from £50 for parents with a residual income of £9,900, to £4,900 for parents with a residual income of £31,620 and more than one child receiving a grant.

Residual income is gross earnings less allowances for such things as interest payments on which tax relief is normally given, pension schemes and life assurance premiums.

● Twelve per cent of the 845,000 pupils who left school last year passed O-level or its equivalent in English, mathematics, science and a modern language, Department of Education and Science statistics showed yesterday.

Tube chief replies to safety critics

By Rodney Cowton

London Regional Transport yesterday answered many criticisms which have been levelled at the Underground system since the fire at King's Cross four weeks ago, in which 31 people died.

It acknowledged that higher standards of cleaning will be needed in the future and disclosed that the Underground's prodecures for closing or evacuating stations have been implemented on 234 occasions in the past five years, including six occasions at King's Cross. Most of these closures or evacuations have been for bomb scares, or because a station was getting overcrowded.

The response is contained in a letter from Sir Keith Bright, chairman of LRT, of which London Underground is a subsidiary, to Mr John Wheeler, Conservative MP for Westminster North.

Sir Keith deals with reports that the spaces beneath some escalators have been used as stores for inflammable materials. He says: "We will need to maintain a higher standard than there has been in the past."

Director fined £3,600 for shares fiddle

A company director was fined £3,600 with £500 costs after admitting making multiple share applications when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday.

David Last, aged 58, of Green Walk, Hendon, north-west London, applied for 44,300 Britoil shares using a string of different names and three different addresses. Sixty-one applications were successful.

Julian Futter, aged 35, of Warrington Crescent, Maida Vale, north London, admitted applying for 36,900 Britoil shares and was fined £5,200 with £500 costs. Almost 200 applications were successful.

Mr Mark Tantan, for the prosecution, said the Britoil prospectus contained no warning of criminal prosecutions for multiple applications but did say this was inadvisable.

Three other men accused of making multiple applications had their cases adjourned.

Ulster judge resigns after security clash

A leading county court judge resigned from the Northern Ireland bench yesterday as the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, arrived in the province for a visit.

Judge Donaldson's letter of resignation reached the Lord Chancellor's office as he arrived in Belfast to meet members of the judiciary, including Judge Donaldson.

No reason for the resignation was made public. But there was speculation that it was the culmination of a dispute between some members of the judiciary and the Royal Ulster Constabulary about the personal security arrangements for judges in Northern Ireland, who face death threats from the IRA.

The issue of security was brought into focus again on Thursday when an IRA car bomb extensively damaged the Belfast home of Judge Murray.

Judge Donaldson was understood to have applied, and been accepted, for re-admission to the Northern Ireland bar.

Lord Mackay, who is expected to be in Northern Ireland for two days, said the court administration in the province was in some ways well ahead of England and Wales. "So I am keen to learn."

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Doctors stunned as hospital is ordered to close five wards

By Ian Smith

Proposals to close five wards and 110 beds at the largest teaching hospital in the North-west to prevent a £2.5 million overspend will bring medical catastrophe, a senior doctor said yesterday.

Dr John Leonard, unit general manager at Withington Hospital, Manchester, said surgeons would be restricted to emergency operations, medical students would be refused practical training, patient waiting lists would grow and potentially violent mentally-ill patients would be untreated.

Dr Leonard, who is also a consultant physician at the hospital, said: "We are devastated, it is such a huge number of beds to lose at one time. Both doctors and nursing staff are stunned."

One medical, one surgical, one psychiatric and two geriatric wards are scheduled for permanent closure after March 31. The number of patients treated each year will drop by 3,000.

Dr Leonard said both doctors and nurses will be placed under enormous pressure to discharge patients earlier than wished so the fewer beds available can be used for more patients.

Mr Gordon Legat, chairman of South Manchester Health Authority, said the closure decision was made reluctantly at a traumatic meeting. It was necessary to prevent over-expenditure on an £88 million budget that covers three hospitals and area community services.

Mr Legat will meet North Western Regional Health Authority officials next month to discuss alternative budget savings. He has already failed to secure government intervention.

Meanwhile the health authority will receive representations from all professional and voluntary bodies opposed to the closure.

Dr Leonard said: "I want to create as much public awareness as possible about what is going on in the hope that it will build up public pressure to unlock further resources and stop this sort of thing happening.

"All specialists will be tempted to increase turnover so they can still handle patients in need of attention and this will enormously increase the burden both on them and nursing staff. It is a vicious circle, an extraordinary state of affairs which is causing great unhappiness among hospital staff.

"We really do feel at the end of our tether and believe the health authority announcement will produce a loud outcry from both professionals and the public."

Fifty beds will disappear from the medical and surgery units. Dr Leonard said this will mean patients from fully occupied medical wards spilling over into surgical ward beds, restricting surgeons to emergency operations only.

Waiting lists for non-essential operations, which already mean an average of two years for vascular surgery and between 12 and 18 months for hip replacements, would lengthen.

Because of the loss of 40 beds in acute and long stay or rehabilitation geriatric wards, remaining beds would be at a premium and some patients would be discharged before being able to cope with the outside world.

With 20 beds disappearing from psychiatric wards an acute psychiatric section would shut down and mentally disturbed schizophrenic and depressive sufferers would not receive treatment.

The decision to cut medical services at Withington comes after an announcement that government funds have been allocated to designate Wythenshawe Hospital nearby as the fourth centre for heart transplants in the United Kingdom.

Mr Legat said statistics had proved South Manchester to be an area where every penny was used to its best advantage. "Yet despite repeatedly demonstrating we are extremely effective and efficient we are placed in the extraordinary position of being penalized for our positive results."

TUC urged to act over health service

The TUC is to consider what action it ought to be taking over the "crisis" in the health service.

The move follows a letter from Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the largest health service union, Nupe, who wants the TUC "to focus and demonstrate" to the Government the strength of public feeling.

Mr Bickerstaffe said his union had noted with concern the underfunding of vital services.

NHS managers in cash review call

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Health service managers are calling on the Prime Minister to implement an urgent review of alternative ways of funding and delivering the service.

The Institute of Health Services Management argued yesterday that injecting relatively small amounts of cash and proposing "irrelevant" schemes such as lotteries would do nothing to solve the cash crisis.

It also criticized the lack of leadership from the Department of Health and Social Security, and issued a warning that ministers could not get away with blaming the problems on either managers or doctors.

The institute has already condemned the Government for failing to make the £100 million emergency injection for this year recurrent in next year's funding.

Miss Barbara Young, the institute's president, predicted that if hospitals reopened wards they would have to close them in April when the money ran out. In many authorities the new money will only amount to about £200,000.

Miss Young will press on Mrs Margaret Thatcher the need for more rational long-term planning, rather than measures prompted by political expediency.

One problem is that the chairman of the NHS Management Board is also the Minister for Health, Mr Antony Newton.

Dr Maureen Dixon, director of the institute, said that there was a limit to the amount that could be achieved by managers locally without support and leadership from the centre.

"We would like to see a more predictable and clearer sense of direction about how the health service is run with more consistent policies."

Together with the National Association of Health Authorities the group is calling for an extra £200 million above the £700 million allocated for 1988-89 to bring spending on the service in line with national growth.

The institute recently set up an inquiry into different systems of health care delivery and funding.

The study, expected to report next summer, will look at a range of options such as imposing a health tax, introducing health vouchers or compulsory private health insurance.

Earlier this week the Commons Select Committee on Social Services also announced that it had decided to hold an inquiry into resourcing the service to "explore the paradox of increased resources on the one hand and on the other, a failure to fulfil long-held expectations about the levels of NHS resources".

A third study on finance from health policy analysts at the King's Fund Institute is expected to report in February.

President to wed her professor



Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the SDP, marries a Harvard professor, Mr Richard Neustadt, today.

It will be Mrs Williams's second marriage; her first was dissolved in 1974. Mr Neustadt, aged 68, is a widower with two grown children.

The couple will marry at St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church, Old Hall Green, Hertfordshire.

●The broadcaster Sue Lawley married the BBC's head of broadcasting for the North-west, Mr Hugh Williams, who is also 41, yesterday at a village church in Oxfordshire.

(Photograph: Alan Weller).

Whitehall's hot line to pin-up girls

By Robin Young

Civil Servants at the Department of the Environment headquarters in London used their office telephones to make more than 1,300 calls to pin-up girls and other telephone entertainment services between August and October.

The calls, mostly charged at the premium rate of 38p a minute, added nearly £840 to the department's telephone bill.

Mr Brian Whitbourn, the department's information technology officer, has asked the Civil Service unions how the abuse can be stopped.

The department said yesterday: "So far we have had no response. But the problem will be eliminated next June when we are getting a new switchboard which will enable us to block calls to the 0898 exchange on which these information and entertainment services are carried."

The results of a call-logging analysis at the department's headquarters in Marsham Street, south-west London, shows that it is entertainment rather than information that Civil Servants principally crave.

Most of the calls went to telephone numbers on which pin-up girls or pop stars could be heard outlining their personal philosophy or providing intimate confessions.

Illicit calls for cricket scores and racing results accounted for only about £15 a month, though there was a spurt of interest in financial affairs in October when 77 calls were made to a number giving information about the BP share issue.

● Warren Fraser, aged 27, a carpenter of Maida Vale, north-west London, who tried to make a free telephone call to his parents in his native New Zealand by hooking up an illegal handset to a public telephone, was fined £500 yesterday at Marylebone Magistrates' Court.

Portfolio Gold

Oak trees will mark a prize

The Times Portfolio Gold prize winner is Mrs Anne Irons, of Ladyoak, Flimwell, East Sussex. She wins £4,000.

Mrs Irons, aged 52, is a retired opera singer. She has been playing Portfolio since its very first day. "Everyone has ridiculed me and told me I'd never win, and this morning I very nearly did not check my numbers. We were going Christmas shopping and my husband, Jack, told me not to bother."

Mrs Irons will spend part of her prize on planting two new oak trees in her garden, to be called "Portfolio" and "The Times". They will replace two 200-year old oak trees which were destroyed by last October's storm.

Mrs Irons and her husband have not had a holiday in seven years and hope to bask in Mediterranean sunshine next summer.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained from:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
PO Box 40,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

Rapist traced by genetic test gets 10 years

Nigel Davies, the first man in Britain to be convicted of rape by the genetic finger printing technique, was jailed for 10 years yesterday.

Davies, a labourer, had slashed his throat with a razor blade in a suicide attempt in the dock when he was convicted at Mold Crown Court, North Wales, three weeks ago of raping a woman aged 66.

The case had be adjourned for sentence while psychiatric tests were carried out on Davies, aged 25, of Rhydwen Drive, Rhyl. He had a history of attacks on women.

But yesterday reports revealed he was not mentally ill. Mr Justice Jupp, passing sentence at Chester Crown Court, noted that Davies, a bachelor, attacked women with a knife when he was aged 14. One woman died two days after he struck her.

Coroner surprised at no word on baby death

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Dr Joe Pim, the Reading coroner, is to investigate why he was not informed of the death from oxygen starvation of a two-day-old baby at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

Sir Gerard Vaughan, the former health minister, has also pressed for an inquest into the baby's death.

Alexander Davies died on October 4, 48 hours after being starved of oxygen for 10 minutes. His parents and doctors at the hospital claimed that the death was directly linked with a shortage of hospital funds.

Yesterday Dr Pim said he was surprised that the matter had not been referred to him, but it was now probably too late to hold an inquest.

The baby's mother, Mrs Vicki Davies, of Newtown, near Newbury, Berkshire, said that when her labour began she had to remain in an antenatal ward at the hospital instead of being transferred to the labour ward as it was full.

It is also alleged that one of a series of monitors used to monitor the baby had a flat battery. It was several minutes before staff realized that the baby's heart had stopped, the baby's parents have said.

Yesterday Sir Gerard dismissed assumptions that the baby's death was a result of underfunding.

He said: "The checking of equipment should be routine practice and maternity units should be closed down if people cannot carry out a simple task of checking a battery. This is nothing to do with the overall underfunding of the National Health Service."

Dealer claims Ceruti scoop

A painting which sold for £2,200 at Christie's last sale of the season yesterday may turn out to be a rare work by an important Bergamo painter, and worth £60,000.

It is as though, fate has dealt a gentle equalizer after an embarrassing month for Sotheby's. Both rival firms, Christie's and Phillips, had hit the jackpot with Old Master paintings which Sotheby's had missed.

This painting was catalogued as Dutch, in a five line entry which says "Manner of Pieter Gerritsz van Roestraaten; Trout, a lobster, a bottle of wine, a tankard, a glass, a plate of oysters and a loaf of bread...estimate £2,000 – £3,000". Its buyer, the dealer Derek Johns, of Harari & Johns in St James's, claims it is a quality work by Giacomo Ceruti.

"Before the sale, I felt certain everyone had spotted it, because everything about it is Mediterranean. The bottle of wine is Chianti, the bread is Italian, it has an Italian knife", a jubilant Mr Johns said yesterday. "I must say, it is a nice Christmas present."

Sotheby's sold a similar painting by Ceruti for £32,000 in 1982, but this year the artist, who was nicknamed Il Pitochetto, or "painter of beggars", has become much more fashionable after an exhibition in Brescia. Mr Johns values his painting at £60,000.

The exhibition included a still life by him with a similar composition. Up to 85 per cent of Ceruti's output was portraiture; his few still lifes all date from early in his life.

Christie's secondary Old Master paintings sale was generally disappointing, with only 56 per cent sold. Top price was £44,000 (estimate £20,000 to £25,000) for a seascape of the River Ij, in Amsterdam, by Abraham Jansz. Storck, and a woodland scene by Jean-Baptiste Pater of a lady enjoying the attentions of her amorous followers fetched £30,800 (estimate £5,000 to £7,000).

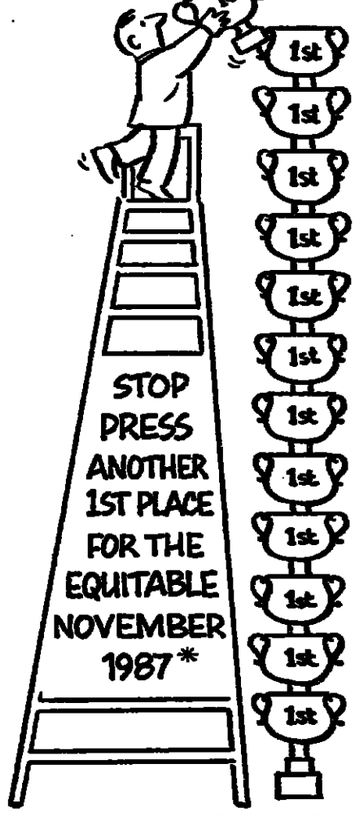
Sotheby's reported mixed success with its Russian Works of Art sale, with 34 per cent unsold in the morning, but better news in the afternoon, taking the day's success rate up to 79 per cent.

Top price was £63,800 for a Cretan icon dating from the fifteenth century.

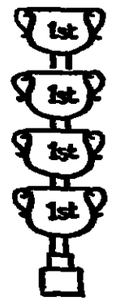
SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

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*20 year regular contribution with profits policy — Planned Savings Survey November 1987.

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77.

Prison officers vote strongly in favour of industrial action

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Early results of a national ballot of prison officers show an overwhelming majority prepared to take industrial action, according to a sample taken yesterday.

While 24 branches voted in favour of the strike proposal, only two voted against, one of them narrowly. The sample represented about a fifth of the prison establishments in England and Wales.

Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, predicted a strong vote in favour of industrial action, but said the full results would not be known until next month.

The prison officers believe that the Home Office policy of introducing more civilian staff will damage the recruitment of trained prison officers. They accuse the Home Office of disguising the real shortage of trained officers.

The association's leadership says in a leaflet that a "yes" vote would not necessarily mean an automatic resort to industrial action. However, it would display the disenchantment of those voting and, as a result, considerably strengthens the position of the national negotiating body.

If the membership voted in favour, there would be a period of up to 28 days to allow for intensive negotiations. If the difficulties could not be resolved within that time some form of industrial action would take place.

The vote sampled indicates that the prison officers have not heeded an appeal by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, who said that new working arrangements under the Fresh Start programme would increase professional status and improve the job content and prospects of staff.

"Fresh Start does not change the principles on which posts are civilianized but it does make it more important than ever that prison officers should be enabled to concentrate on those duties which call for their special expertise and skills in the care and control of prisoners", Mr Hurd said.

Officers at two jails took industrial action yesterday. At Brixton, south-west London, officers began working restricted hours from 6.45am yesterday in protest at understaffing. The action will continue until 9pm on Monday.

● Dartmoor prison officers have voted again to tell the Home Office they have no confidence in their governor and want him dismissed.

Association members, who passed a second no-confidence vote in Mr John May, want him replaced to end a long dispute over his more liberal prison regime.

Mr May said he would not leave his post. "Clearly I am disappointed some of the staff still feel this way. There are many staff who were not represented at this meeting."

The Home Office introduced new work practices, which involved less overtime and a promise of more staff, after an earlier no-confidence vote last September.

Mr May had ordered his officers to work on days off to enable prisoners to be allowed out of their cells for evening recreational periods. The officers' association accused him of trying to run "a liberal regime without the staff to do it".

Lord Caithness, Minister of State at the Home Office, gave Mr May a vote of confidence in August.

A dispute between the police and lay prison visitors, which led to police cell visits being suspended, has been settled.

Agreement has been reached at Lambeth, south London, so that prisoners being held at police stations can continue to be seen by lay visitors, who are appointed by the Home Secretary, out of the hearing of the police.

The scheme, the first of its kind when launched in 1984, was suspended by the Lambeth Community Police Consultative Group a fortnight ago after the police insisted on listening to conversations between visitors and prisoners.

There had been general agreement since the scheme's inception to allow the interviews to take place out of the hearing of police.

Both sides have agreed to a two-month trial period following the established pattern. As in the past, the police will be able to remain within hearing in special cases.

Authority seeks help on Anderton

By Ian Smith

The Greater Manchester Police Authority is to seek counsel's advice on the question of disciplinary measures available against Mr James Anderton, its chief constable.

The authority has been angered by an article in *Woman's Own* in which Mr Anderton was quoted as saying he supported flogging for criminals – though he later said he had been misquoted.

The authority believes that by giving the interview, Mr Anderton broke undertakings not to make controversial statements without consulting its chairman first.

Measures available include suspension and an inquiry conducted by a chief constable from an outside force to decide whether Mr Anderton, the head of the largest provincial police force, has brought his job into disrepute.

Mr Stephen Murphy, chairman of the authority, said it was considered advisable to learn as quickly as possible what legal options were open to the authority.

It was decided a legal report outlining available options should be presented at the next meeting of the Police Authority which meets on January 29. Neither party will comment on the article in the meantime.

Depending on the advice given, the authority could institute disciplinary action or apply to the Home Secretary for Mr Anderton's dismisal under section five of the Police Act, 1964.

Imran helps children's charity



Imran Khan, the former Pakistan cricket captain, with a customer at Harrods, central London, yesterday, where he signed copies of a Christmas card that he designed. The proceeds go to the Save the Children Fund (Photograph: James Gray).

Alliance draft constitution

Format 'scales democratic heights'

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Alliance leaders claimed yesterday that their proposed new constitution for a merged party scaled new heights in internal democracy. They contrasted their draft formula for uniting the Liberals and the SDP with the "autocratic" regime practised by the Conservatives and Labour's unwieldy reliance on the trade union block vote.

They maintained that their open and decentralized formula, reached after 10 weeks of painstaking negotiations, amounted to a microcosm of the kind of free society they would build if they won power.

They made clear that their initial target was a party of 100,000 members with a minimum income of £1 million a year, rather less than the combined strengths of their existing organizations.

Nevertheless, divisions between the Liberals and the SDP were still in evidence as the two centre parties fastened their sights on an historic and lasting union. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said he was confident that the package would be endorsed by an overwhelming majority at the special conferences of both parties.

Mr Robert Maclennan, the SDP leader, was markedly more cautious, saying it was too early to predict the outcome because the two leaders had yet to decide their joint statement of policy. That would be critical in shaping the attitudes of SDP members towards a merger.

After some six weeks of consultation, the constitutional package will be put to conferences of the Liberal Party and the SDP at the end of next month. If, as seems certain, it is endorsed, it will be put to a secret ballot of the members of the two parties with a launch in March and party conferences in September. The leader would then be elected by postal ballot.

The constitution, which includes a statement of values including a commitment to Nato and the EEC, provides for a party to be called the New Liberal and Social Democratic Party, which may be known as The Alliance. Its provisions include:

● Twice-yearly 2,000-strong conferences with the vast majority of voting members elected from local parties, with their numbers being determined by sliding scale depending on membership.

● Election of parliamentary candidates by members at hustings meetings, with postal votes for those unable to attend.

● Special provisions for women. A third of those chosen for parliamentary candidate shortlists and a third of those elected to the ruling federal executive and policy commitees must be female.

● A federal structure. Scottish, English and Welsh "state" parties under an American–style federal umbrella.

● A 28-strong federal executive committee consisting of the leader, the president, two MPs, one peer, two councillors, vice-presidents from the three mainland countries, together with one additional representative from each country and 14 members elected annually from the conference.

● A 28-strong federal policy committee producing green and white papers for consideration by the conferences.

Woolwich seeks £8m over tax mistake

The Inland Revenue repaid nearly £57 million tax claimed wrongly from a building society but has refused to pay nearly £8 million interest on the money, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

Mr John Gardiner, QC, for the Woolwich Building Society, said the Inland Revenue was effectively saying it was the society's "tough luck" that it paid the tax in the first place. The society had paid the tax demanded under the 1986 Income Tax (Building Societies) Regulations "under protest".

It made a successful legal challenge in the High Court which ruled in July that the regulations were unlawful. The Inland Revenue repaid the tax last month, but with interest only from the date of judgement. Its appeal against the judgement will be heard in the New Year.

The society is seeking to recover the full interest.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Boxer faces raid charge

Chris Pyatt, the former British and European light middleweight boxing champion, was accused yesterday of being involved in a £27,600 raid on a jeweller's in Leicester between December 3 and 4.

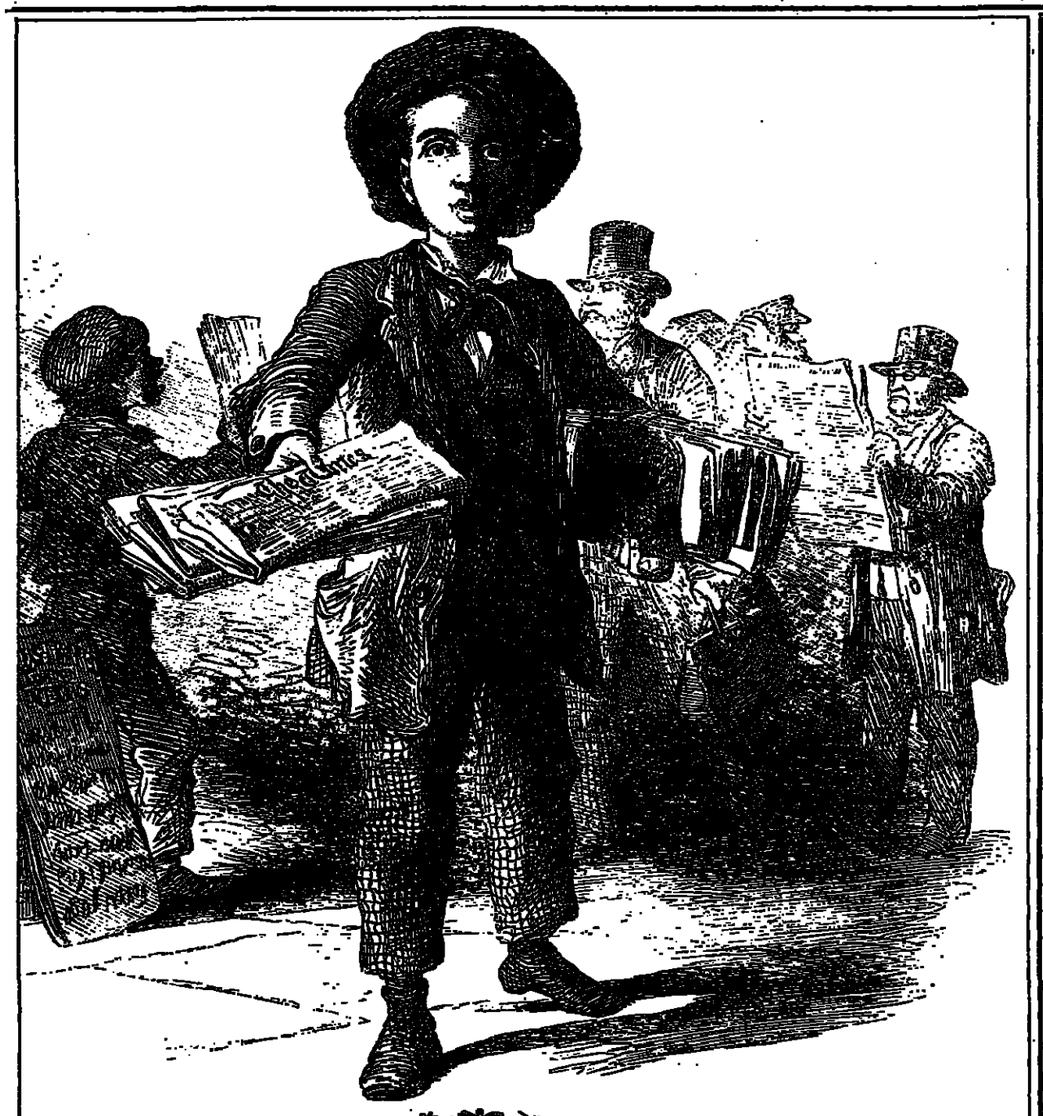
Mr Pyatt, aged 24, of Scraptoft Lane, and Stuart Stanger, aged 22, a doorman, of Earl Russell Street, both Leicester, were charged with burglary and remanded in custody by Leicester magistrates until Monday.

Court change

In a move to speed the hearing of criminal appeal cases, all applications for leave to appeal against crown court decisions must from January 1 be lodged with the crown court involved instead of the London offices of the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division. The applications will be forwarded to the Court of Appeal.

Burial mix-up

An investigation is being sought by Mr Simon Burns, Conservative MP for Chelmsford, Essex, after it was found that a man's body was buried in the wrong grave at Writtle Road cemetery, Chelmsford.



THE TIMES

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December 18 1987 PARLIAMENT

Pensioners to get £8 payments

Flat-rate payments of £8 will be made to pensioners and other social security claimants because of underpayments arising out of a computer error, MPs were told.

Mr Nicholas Scott, giving details of the payments, said that they were a moral, not a legal obligation on the Government. His statement follows the announcement on Monday that an error had led to miscalculation of the Retail Price Index since early 1986, resulting in an underpayment to pensioners of "about 5p a week".

He said that it would be disproportionately complex and time consuming to try to calculate and pay exactly what each individual had lost. He thought that MPs would want to see the mistake corrected quickly and fairly.

In keeping the promise that the Exchequer would not benefit from the underpayments, between £10 million and £15 million would go to appropriate charities.

In his statement, Mr Scott said that special payments would be made to the following social security recipients: retirement pensioners, supplementary pensioners, those receiving widows' benefits, industrial injuries benefits, war pensions, invalid care allowance, invalidity benefit, mobility allowance, attendance allowance and severe disablement allowance.

Action to correct benefit rates for all recipients would come at the April 1989 uprating.

"Payments will be at a flat rate of £8 – slightly more than the standard £7.85 loss to retirement pensioners – and, in line with their actual loss, £5 for mobility allowance recipients." They will be made in February.

A few severely disabled war and industrially-injured pensioners would lose significantly more than £8. They would get extra compensation but that would take longer.



Mr Nicholas Scott: 'No legal obligation.'

It was estimated that, due to the error, £109 million was underspent. The payments announced would cost more than £100 million. The remainder would be allocated to suitable charities.

No payments will be made to pensioners of public service occupational schemes administered by central government. The resultant savings to the Exchequer arising from this will be added to the sum to go to charities, bringing it to between £10 million and £15 million. Charities active in support of retired public servants would be among those that could benefit.

Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokeman on health and social security, said that though, in the season of goodwill, the House accepted that such errors could occur, it was extraordinary that it had taken 18 months to uncover this error in such an important indicator as the RPI.

Public service pensioners were also long-term claimants and there could be no possible justification for the distinction the minister had made between them and state pensioners "other than the Government's distaste for Civil Servants".

Claimants for unemployment benefit faced the same costs in buying bread and paying for heating as those on state pensions. There were 1.6 million unemployed claimants as at October who had been unemployed since last April. Should they not also be compensated?

Mr Scott said that for public-service pensioners, flat-rate compensation would be inappropriate, and precise compensation would involve administrative costs out of proportion to the sums involved. "The Government has no legal obligation to make these payments – (Opposition protests) – we have a moral obligation. That is why the Government is announcing that £109 million is to be available."

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said that the only warm response to the announcement would come from the charities that would receive an unexpected windfall.

What had been the cost of rectifying the error?

Mr Scott said the administrative cost had been in excess of £5 million, which had been for a broad-brush approach.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) said that there were pensioners whose spouse had died since the original computing error was made. Would they receive what would have been due to their deceased spouse?

Mr Scott said that because of the speed with which the statement had been brought before the House there were a number of details yet to be finalized. The point would be taken into account.

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) asked whether special arrangements would be made for payments to the severely disabled.

Mr Scott said that as records were kept relating to this group so individual cases could be analysed, but it would take time.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl C) asked if those in receipt of more than one of the listed benefits would receive payments in respect of each.

Mr Scott said that they would.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) said that there had been no explanation of the error or how it had been discovered.

Mr Scott said that the RPI had been calculated by computer since 1983. In 1985 it had been decided to modify part of the software and in writing the program a mistake had been made leaving insufficient computer space available for calculating the precise changes in a number of items.

As a result, prices changes were calculated to a whole number and the decimal place was not carried forward. The cumulative effect had built up until the inflation rate this year was under-estimated by 0.1 per cent.

Mr Graham Allen (Nottingham North, Lab) said that he had pointed out mistakes in the RPI since he had been elected in June, as had Civil Service pensioners over a number of years. These warnings had been ignored.

Yet after their persistence these pension rs were to receive nothing.

Mr Scott said that the error was being looked at by the head of the Government Statistics Service to make sure that it did not happen again.

There had been complaints about the basis for calculating the RPI. That was a separate matter from whether it was being calculated accurately.

Christmas fall in demand for hospital beds

London hospitals faced a crisis over Christmas despite the announcement this week of extra money for the National Health Service, Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said.

That extra money was itself inadequate, he said, when opening a short debate on the health service in the capital.

He said that beds and wards were being closed over the holiday and that there was a crisis in staffing and morale.

Mr Tony Newton, Minister of Health, said that Mr Corbyn's comments were misleading. Apart from other things, many patients did not care to go into hospital over Christmas, and there was a drop in demand for elective surgery. Many people would rather wait.

Change is lamentably slow in South Africa

'The warning lights were now well in sight for violent change in South Africa if the government there did not accept peaceful change, Mr **Timothy Eggar**, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said at the end of a short debate in the Commons.

The South African Government must be persuaded that change could not be avoided. The rate of change for the better had been lamentably and unacceptably slow.

The British Government regarded apartheid as a repulsive and detestable system and wished to see it ended soon, but there was a limit to what outsiders could do to help. Britain had been scrupulous in implementing all the restrictive measures to which it had agreed, but such signals were meant to alert the South African Government to the need for change, not to destroy the South African economy.

He was replying to a debate initiated by **Mr Bernie Grant** (Tottenham, Lab), who said that the British Government had the power to end apartheid and yet it said that apartheid must stay.

The Government had a lot to say to Mr Gorbachov about human rights, but nothing to say to Mr Botha on the same subject.

He pledged to continue an uncompromising struggle until the British Government took action.

Hopes rise for some to return to Vietnam

There was now active international discussion of the possibility of returning to Vietnam – with suitable safeguards – those people who did not meet the criteria of refugees. **Mr Timothy Eggar**, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during a debate. Agreement, however, would be difficult.

Britain had also intensified bilateral contacts with the Vietnamese authorities. So far, it had found no new willingness to accept back those who had left, other than on a very limited basis.

There could be no question of returning them to a punitive reception, but he believed that over time, their return could be achieved.

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Tyra Henry case workers will not be disciplined

By David Sapsted

Disciplinary action will not be taken against social workers accused of being involved in a "tangle of professional misjudgement" that led to the killing of Tyra Henry, aged 21 months.

A report, highly critical of social workers, was produced after an independent inquiry into the murder three years ago; but Mr Robin Osmond, director of social services in the London borough of Lambeth, yesterday said that disciplinary action would be irrelevant because so much time had elapsed since the incident.

Similarly, Mr Fred Taggart, chairman of the Labour-controlled council's housing committee, said there was nothing in the report by a panel headed by Mr Stephen Sedley, QC, to justify action against members of the housing department.

The decisions came after a period of disruption by members of Nalgo, the National and Local Government Officers' Association, which refused to co-operate with the inquiry and which was mainly responsible for the lengthy delay in publication of the report.

Tyra died in September 1984, after being beaten and bitten more than fifty times by her father, Andrew Neil, who is serving a life sentence.

He had earlier been convicted of blinding and causing brain damage to Tyra's brother Tyrone and, although there was a care order placing Tyra with her grandmother, Lambeth's housing department allowed the mother, Claudette Henry, to get a flat where she lived with the baby.

Mr Sedley's report said: "The overriding responsibility of Lambeth as Tyra's legal parent became lost in the tangle of administrative frustration and professional misjudgement".

The social worker charged with looking after Tyra, Mrs Avon Pailthorpe, has already left Lambeth and is working for the London borough of Hammersmith.

Mr Osmond criticized the report for failing to look at the question of financing social service work in Lambeth and for failing to take into account the demands placed on social workers in the borough.

He said a combination of pressure, uncompetitive salaries and the high cost of housing in London had meant Lambeth having 53 vacancies for social workers, representing a shortfall of 32 per cent on the establishment figure.

"That means the staff are heavily stretched", he said, particularly as almost 200 new child abuse cases had come on to the books since Tyra died.

"Disciplinary action was raised in the past but, because of the passage of time, it is now irrelevant", Mr Osmond added.

Mr Mike Waller, Lambeth branch secretary for Nalgo, claimed that under a proposed council budget, up to 45 social workers' jobs would be cut in the borough and the area office which dealt with Tyra's case would be closed.

He said the council was obsessed with recruitment freezes. "Lambeth council is in internal crisis over resources because it is a rate-capped local authority. Many cases are not being dealt with."

Mr Osmond claimed that many of the report's recommendations had already been introduced, including new procedures for overseeing child abuse cases and for improving communications between council staff.

He said the council would be reviewing its code of practice on the care of black children.

Mr David Jones, general secretary of the British Association of Social Workers, welcomed many of the report's proposals but said that suggestions to "tinker" with the country's child care laws could only lead to confusion and, possibly, put more lives at risk.

Leonardo cartoon attacker sent to Broadmoor

By Lynda Murdin, Arts Correspondent

A former soldier who smuggled a sawn-off shotgun into the National Gallery and blasted a Leonardo da Vinci cartoon was sent to Broadmoor by a judge at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Robert Cambridge, aged 37, of Glen Albyn Road, Wimbledon, south-west London, pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to criminally damaging the work in July and possessing the gun with intent.

After his arrest he told detectives: "It was a protest about the general political, social and economic conditions in Britain."

Judge Lowry, QC, sent him to Broadmoor so that he can be properly assessed by doctors and ordered Cambridge to reappear in court on March 12.

Experts have spent months analysing the damage to the Leonardo cartoon. The National Gallery plans to announce next month exactly how the work, which has an estimated worth of £20 million, is to be treated.

There are several highly technical repair options, but whichever is chosen, the already fragile drawing can never be the same as it was before the damage.

The gallery said last night: "We are not going to make the damage vanish completely, as if it had never been. Probably from the viewpoint of the public, the cartoon won't look too different. But to the expert, these things are obvious under examination."

Repair work will begin on the cartoon, "The Virgin and Child With St Anne and St John The Baptist", in the New Year led by the gallery's chief restorer, Mr Martin Wyld.

Technical advice has been sought from institutions in Britain and abroad and it seems likely an expert will be brought in from the British Museum, to help heal the wound.

The black chalk drawing, dating from the mid 1490s and measuring 56in by 41in, was hanging behind reinforced glass in its own small room, which had a controlled environment, when the gunman fired at the Virgin's bosom.

The glass shattered but the pellets seemed to bounce back into the gallery; an area 6in square of the cartoon contains tears and fragments of glass.

This was not the first attack suffered by da Vinci's emotive masterpiece. A bottle of ink was thrown in 1962 during the public appeal for £800,000 to purchase the work from the Royal Academy and save it for the nation: the resulting scratches were repaired on the spot. In the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century, the eight sheets of paper, pasted together by the artist to contain the drawing, were glued on to a flax canvas in somewhat unsympathetic fashion.

In the meantime, the Virgin remains protected in a special box called her "life support machine".



Cynthia Harvey in the role of Cinderella with the Royal Ballet (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Ballerina will get to the ball after all

Cynthia Harvey, the ballerina who injured her foot in a hole in a Moscow stage in June, makes her first performance in a full-length ballet since the accident tonight.

Miss Harvey, for whom the injury has meant missing several debuts, gets to the ball at last when she takes the title role for the first time in the Royal Ballet's production of *Cinderella* by Sir Frederick Ashton at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The company was on tour to the Soviet Union when Miss Harvey trapped her foot in a hole in the stage of Moscow's Operetta Theatre during a rehearsal. Her sole appearance since the injury has been in the one-act ballet *The Firebird* last month.

She said yesterday: "I feel better than ever and am delighted to be going back on stage. I hope this will be the first of many roles".

RSC pulls out of Mermaid role

By Lynda Murdin, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company is to withdraw next month from the Mermaid Theatre in London after a year, to concentrate on a restructured operation at the Barbican Centre in the City.

The withdrawal heralds the expected scaling down of productions in London and Stratford-upon-Avon and a reduction in actors employed next year.

The company expanded to the Mermaid at Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, at the beginning of the year in association with commercial producers who guaranteed them against any losses there.

Frank and Woji Gero, the American husband and wife production team, are planning to stay on at the theatre and will bring in Shared Experience's acclaimed production of *Nana* from the Almeida in Islington. Whether they renew their lease after March depends on the production's success.

The Royal Shakespeare Company said last night: "Our repertory system didn't take off there. The Mermaid was an interesting experiment but basically we feel we would prefer to stay at home base."

A main function of the Mermaid, which has had a chequered history since being founded in 1959 by Bernard Miles, now Lord Miles, was to stage plays from the company's new Swan Theatre at Stratford, including *The Fair Maid of the West* and *The Rover*. They were successful, but the American season (*They Shoot Horses, Don't They?* and *The Great White Hope*) was not.

Mr Gero said if the company had not been planning big changes in its schedules, he would have been happy to bring in the new season of plays from the Swan.

The specially contructed Jacobean gallery, one of several structural alterations to accommodate the company at the Mermaid, will be dismantled after January 16.

Rank to offer film TV channel

By Lynda Murdin

The Rank Organisation hopes to pursuade the Government to give permission for a subscription television service which would use land-based transmitters rather than satellites.

All a viewer would need to receive the over-the-air service, similar to the successful Canal Plus in France, would be a £30 aerial and a £60 decoder plugged into the television set; and the company might share that expense. Viewers are not required to buy expensive dish aerials.

Subscribers would pay between £8 and £12 a month to be able to see up to six feature films a day, interspersed with mini-series, drama, sport, all free of advertising. Films would be shown about a year after their cinema launch.

The Rank Organisation, Britain's largest film distributor and one of the leading leisure groups, is prepared to spend up to £100 million on the project and believes it could be in operation late in 1990.

Talks have been held with the Department of Trade and Industry committee which is examining the technical feasibilty of having more television channels in Britain. Rank hopes to be given the go-ahead in the forthcoming White Paper on broadcasting.

Mr James Daly, Rank's managing director of films and television, said last night that he believed potential demand amounted to three million households. The plan is to put up a £15 million transmitter centre to broadcast a scrambled signal via the decoder.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Buthelezi wins defamation case

Johannesburg – Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Zulu leader, was yesterday awarded damages of 12,000 rands (£3,430) for a defamatory article about him from the British weekly, *The Spectator*, which was reprinted in a local magazine (Michael Hornsby writes). In the article – written by a British journalist, Stephen Robinson – Chief Buthelezi was described as "nauseatingly pompous and self-important" and his supporters as "among the most thuggish operators in South Africa".

The action was brought in the Durban Supreme Court against Frontline, a monthly with a circulation of only 9,500.

Meanwhile, 10 black policemen and two civilians were wounded yesterday in a gun and grenade attack by at least two unknown assailants in the Nyanga township outside Cape Town. It was the fourth armed attack in less than 10 days on black policemen, who are widely unpopular in the townships.

Mafia round-up

Palermo (Reuter) – Police here arrested four alleged gangsters yesterday on charges of murder and of belonging to a Mafia clan running an extortion racket.

They were charged with the murder in 1983 of Luigi Soletta, a Sicilian businessman, and the attempted murder of his brother Vitale. Police said that the Soletta brothers had refused to give in to local Mafia gangsters trying to buy land below market prices near the Sicilian capital. The state dealt the Mafia its most severe blow on Wednesday when a Palermo court handed down 19 life sentences and sentenced 319 other *mafiosi* to 2,700 years in jail.

Anger at spy subs

Stockholm – A report by General Bengt Gustafsson, Commander-in-Chief of the Swedish armed forces, on submarine violations last summer yesterday threatened to torpedo an official *visit to Stockholm* in the New Year by the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Ryzikov (Christopher Mosey writes).

Publicly, the report said there was no "definite proof" of the identity of the submarines. However, a section which was stamped "secret" by the Government, though widely "leaked" by the disgruntled military, said all the indications were that the submarines were from the Soviet Union.

Tanker war flares

Dubai (Reuter) – Iranian Revolutionary Guards attacked two supertankers in the southern Gulf yesterday and an Iraqi aircraft fired a missile at a ship in Iran's Kharg Island oil shuttle fleet. The missile hit the 249,980-tonne steam tanker Free Enterprise, shipping sources said, and the fully-laden Maltese-registered vessel, called for help.

The Revolutionary Guards, in three speedboats, fired nine rocket-propelled grenades into the Norwegian 290,762-tonne Happy Kari as it neared the mouth of the Gulf with a full load of Kuwaiti crude, and attacked the 280,578-tonne Saudi Splendour, registered in Liberia. No one was hurt, and neither ship sought help, though the grenades started a small fire on the Happy Kari. The crew put it out.

Cambodia talks date

Bangkok (Reuter) – The Prime Minister of Cambodia, Mr Hun Sen, will join the exiled guerrilla leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, for a second round of Cambodian peace talks on January 27 in France.

The two first met for talks from December 2-4 and raised hopes for a possible breakthrough in the nine-year conflict. Their four-point outline for peace set up more meetings between them in January and April, but last week the prince apparently cancelled further meetings after criticism from Asian backers.

Clamp on terror law

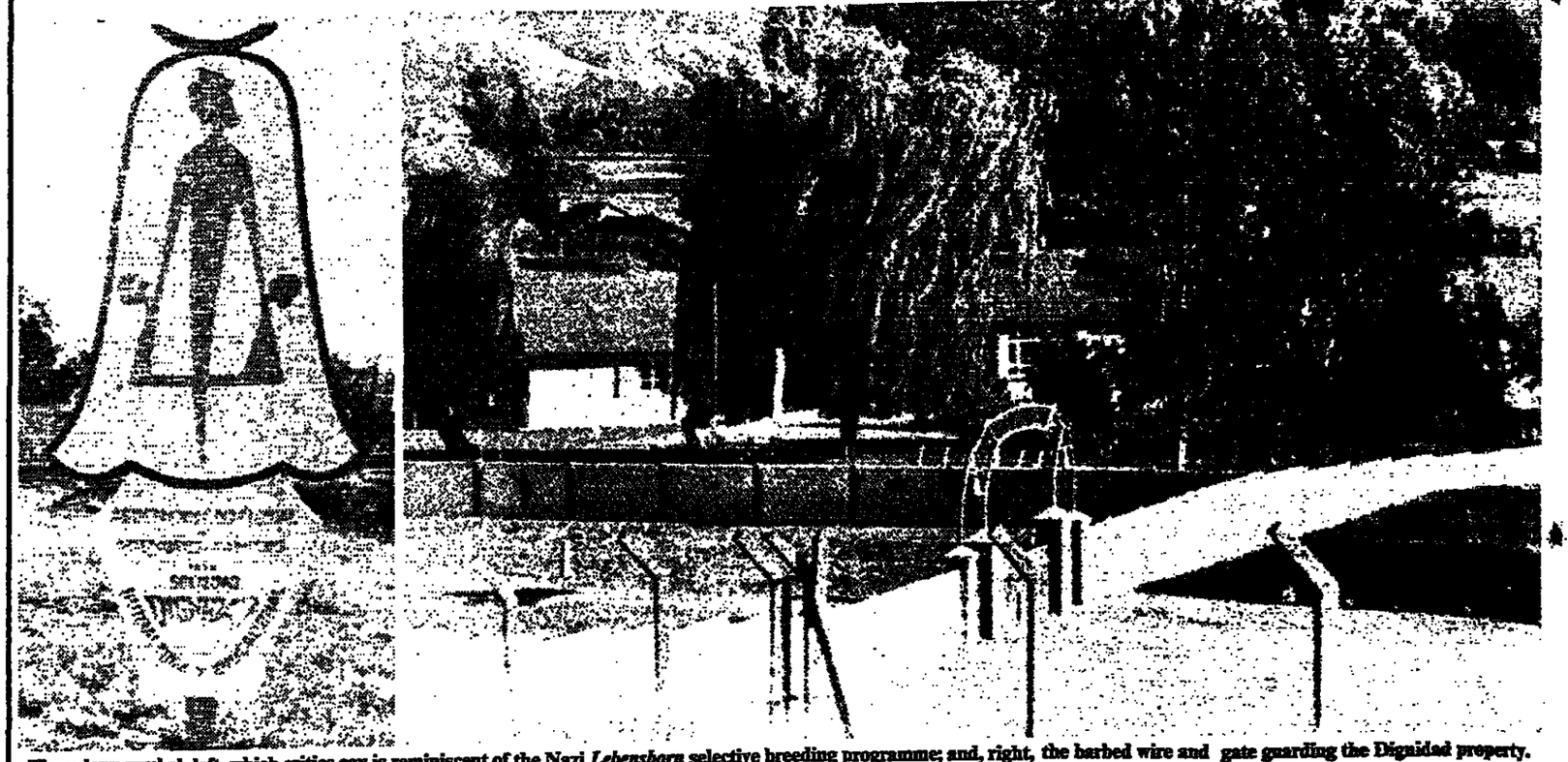
Madrid – The Spanish Constitutional Tribunal has declared four sections of the country's anti-terrorist law unconstitutional, three years after it went into effect, according to a decision made public here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

The decision did not catch the Government off guard, however, since most parts of the law that the court threw out – on public apologies for terrorism, the suspension of habeas corpus, keeping prisoners incommunicado, and media closures – will be covered by new legislation already proposed by Madrid.

Good year for truffles

Paris – The first truffles of the season have just reached the market here, and the early word from Périgord and Provence is that there are signs of a good year for the noblest of all fungi (Philip Jacobseon writes). While not considered by the *savants* of absolutely tip-top quality, there will at least be enough to go round among those to whom a price of between £100 and £120 per kg is as nothing for a taste of paradise. The last two harvests were decidedly thin, especially for the most prized black specimens from the Tricastin region, which shot up as a result to £150 a kg.

Unwelcoming face of secret colony in Chile



The colony symbol, left, which critics say is reminiscent of the Nazi *Lebensborn* selective breeding programme; and, right, the barbed wire and gate guarding the Dignidad property.

Bonn experts look into taint of Nazism

From Lake Sagaris
Parral, Chile

Nearly 200 miles south of Santiago, just past the turn-off to Parral, a lengthy stretch of winding gravel road leads through farmland towards the Andean foothills and a 350-strong closed German – some observers allege Nazi – community known as Colonia Dignidad ("Dignity Colony").

Shrouded in secrecy, it has been the subject of heated controversy since its creation in 1962 by Herr Paul Schaeffer. Spokesmen call it a hard-working society for the benefit of mankind.

But witnesses have told Amnesty International that the place is run like a concentration camp, and was used as a centre for torturing and killing potential critics of the 1973 military coup. Concern in West Germany has led the Bonn Government to send a high-powered, special investigative commission to Chile this week. But the colony leaders have refused to meet the delegation. However, newspaper reports in Santiago this week suggested that a representative from Dignidad would go to Santiago to see the West Germans.

The colony has been accused of condoning child sex abuse, of collaborating with the Chilean secret police, and of constituting a Nazi reserve in Latin America. One Chilean newspaper, *La Epoca*, compared the Dignidad symbol, a nurse with a child clinging to each hand, with the *Lebensborn* (life-source) symbol for the Nazis' Aryan race reproduction programme. The same report quoted researchers who have compared the colony's set-up to German utopian proposals for creating autonomous, self-sustaining German colonies worldwide.

Members worked without pay, were beaten, spied on and left to go hungry

Herr Hermann Schmidt, the colony's president, insisted in an interview on Chilean television that the Bonn commission members "know that everything they say about us is a lie. So what are they coming here to investigate?"

The large number of children – about 100 – in the colony has provoked speculation. Even married couples sleep in separate dormitories, sexual relations between young people are strictly prohibited, and people usually marry in their forties, or later. Some researchers have associated the disappearance of some 30 or 40 children from the Bonn area with the colony. Its West German headquarters is in Siegburg near by.

In 1966 Herr Wolfgang Müller, then aged 19, escaped from the colony for the third time. He said that members were forced to work incessantly without pay and that they were beaten, spied on and left to go hungry. He also alleged that the colony had aircraft, a landing strip and large arms caches in the mountains. Herr Müller told the Chilean magazine, *Ercilla*, that Herr Schaeffer "is a dictator ... Every day a different boy must work as his 'helper', whose duties include sleeping with him". He also claimed that he knew of two former SS officers who now live in the colony.

On Monday members of the commission secretly met Bishop Carlos Camus, who is in charge of the diocese where the colony is located. According to one Chilean newspaper, they will also meet a German citizen who fled Dignidad in 1984.

On the approach road to the colony, sleek horses and grazing cows are seen for the first few miles. But after the Villa Bavaria turn-off, signs of life peter out. The road gets increasingly lonely. About 25 miles from the highway, my car skidded round a sharp curve, crashed into a wall of dried mud and would not move. A school bus then arrived from the colony. After confirming that the damage was real, the German driver spoke with someone by radio and finally promised help would come. His passengers – ragged, haggard-faced Chilean children – crowded round the window, but said little. A pick-up truck with four passengers eventually appeared.

One man hung back, giving instructions to an inordinately tall Chilean who had evidently been charged with checking us. He called himself and his companions "friends of Dignidad", but would not give his name. Colony members believed that the German commission would visit them that day, and a large demonstration had been prepared in their defence, he explained. "I can't guarantee how they will treat you," he said, when the car was fixed and mobile again.

Four miles down the road, several pick-up trucks and a crowd of well-dressed youths, apparently sons of wealthy landowners of the region, blocked the bridge before the gate to the colony itself.

The colony has been accused of collaborating with the secret police

Cameras clicked and sophisticated video equipment (wielded by two independent crews) whirred at us, while colony "friends" checked our credentials using an intercom. They finally allowed correspondents' vehicles to cross the bridge, but a silent crowd of about 80 people, mostly thin, poorly-dressed farm women, skinny children and elderly men, obviously very poor, blocked the gate.

They held placards aloft, telling the foreigners (commission and press) to go home, accusing them of being Marxists and praising the colony.

Papers materialized, statements signed by colony inmates, attacking the morals of Herr Heinz Kuhn, Herr Georg and Frau Lotti Packmor, and Herr Hugo Baar – former inhabitants who escaped and whose testimony has created this latest furore. They had repeated past accusations that Herr Schaffer had abusive, sexual relations with children and said that some boys were injected with a liquid to make them sterile.

Fräulein Irmengard Packmor, who still lives in Dignidad, accused her brother of having absconded with colony money and a car. In a written but unsigned statement she said that his wife, Lotti, had had adulterous relations with Herr Baar. In a similar statement, Fräulein Magdalena Baar, who continues to live in the colony, called her father an alcoholic and a drug addict, as well as a wife-abuser, and demanded the "freedom" of her mother who left with him.

Warning to Israel border police

Elite troops join patrols

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

More Israeli Army officers and troops are being assigned to patrol with border police after the finding of an inquiry that a police unit was responsible for beating and humiliating Arabs in Balata refugee camp, near Nablus, last week. Police officers have been given stern warnings against such conduct in future.

When they stormed into the camp, however, the border police were only living up to their reputation among Palestinians for brutal toughness. Israel recruits to the force extensively from its Druze population not only because they speak Arabic but because they also know Arabic ways.

There is no shortage of recruits, since the force gives a good career and a good wage to people from largely depressed areas. At the same time, since they have chosen to be loyal to Israel, they are hated and regarded as traitors by the Palestinians.

The Druze have shown the world, in Lebanon, that they can be brutally tough and resourceful. Their Israeli colleagues are no less so, and they patrol the camps and occupied territories using a combination of fear and fearlessness. For them the rampage through Balata was all in a normal day's work, given the fact that the camp had earned itself a reputation for brutal violence among Israeli security forces.

Although technically police, the force is dressed and equipped just like the Army, with only its dark green beret revealing the difference. Like the Army, too, they have little or no training or equipment to deal with riots.

This, and a shortage of manpower at a time of violent disturbances, have been why there have been so many casualties, killed and wounded by gunfire and injured with brutal beatings.

After complaints by the United States a year ago that the troops were trigger-happy in quelling the riots, some attention has been given to finding better methods of crowd control. New "scatter" rubber bullets have been introduced, together with more efficient tear gas grenades.

The men themselves, however, are still not trained to use riot shields; they usually walk about in troubled areas without their helmets; they often have only live ammunition available for protection.

Because they are so outnumbered, particularly in the Gaza Strip, things have got out of hand frequently in the past weeks. A small patrol of four or six men, however well armed or trained, is vulnerable to several hundred youths throwing stones. They are bound to start firing live ammunition, given their apparent instinctive disregard for the lives of demonstrators.

The normal army presence in Gaza is just 1,000 men, called on to control an increasingly troublesome local population of 635,000. That number has been increased drastically, but even so it is unlikely that more than 5,000 men are available for service in the area. The extra troops have been drawn from the tough, no-nonsense, battle-trained regiments like the paratroops and the Givati brigade. These men are the elite of Israel's Army in wartime. They are experts in warfare, but not in controlling riots.

One irony is that Israel produces some of the world's most sophisticated crowd control equipment. It sells well in Western Europe. South Korea is a major customer. But Israel itself does not buy any.

Rashaya, Lebanon – Guerrillas clashed with Israeli troops and their Lebanese militia allies yesterday in an attack on Israel's southern Lebanon "buffer zone" (Reuter reports). Security sources said the guerillas firing rockets and machineguns attacked a post manned by militiamen of the "south Lebanon army" but were beaten back.

Israel radio said that the attackers clashed with an SLA patrol, killing one militiaman and wounding four, and then fought Israeli reinforcements, who killed two guerrillas.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said in Beirut that its commandos launched the raid. He confirmed two guerrilla deaths, but said that two Israeli soldiers had also been killed.

Bonn challenges Thatcher on more pay for farmers

From Richard Owen, Bonn

Herr Ignaz Kiechle, the West German Agriculture Minister, has challenged Mrs Thatcher head-on over the EEC's food mountain crisis by insisting that Bonn's solution – the controversial "set aside" policy – must be given equal weight with other solutions, such as drastic price cuts.

At the EEC's summit meeting two weeks ago in Copenhagen, Mrs Thatcher said flatly that "set aside", under which farmers are compensated for taking land out of production, could be only a complement to "stabilizers", the jargon word for automatic *limits to farm output with* strict price penalties for overproduction.

Herr Kiechle, a dairy farmer from Bavaria, takes over the chair in the EEC Council of Farm Ministers at the end of this month, when Denmark hands over the rotating EEC presidency to West Germany. The prospect arouses deep gloom in Brussels, where Herr Kiechle is seen as an obdurate defender of German farming interests and an obstacle to overdue reform of the common agriculture policy.

Over a solid lunch of meat and potatoes at the Agriculture Ministry, Herr Kiechle said he was still optimistic about the chances of compromise over farm policy at the special EEC summit meeting called for February in Brussels after the impasse at Copenhagen.

This was because the EEC faced a financial crisis, with no agreed budget for 1988 and an anticipated shortfall of £4 billion, due mainly to farm spending. But 1987 had been "the most difficult year ever in the history of the CAP", Herr Kiechle said. He himself had been excluded from the annual conference of West German farmers at Aachen in June for having agreed to this year's farm price cuts while simultaneously being pilloried in Brussels for his defence of farming livelihoods.



Herr Kiechle: Seeking an agriculture compromise.

Herr Kiechle said that the "set aside" scheme was "quicker, cheaper and less harmful to farm incomes" than stabilizers. An experimental scheme in Lower Saxony had got off to a slow start, but it had picked up when the farmers were offered increased compensation.

"We produce six tonnes of wheat per hectare (2.4 acres) in Europe. It costs £600 to sell these six tonnes to Russia, not counting storage costs," he said. "If we pay our farmers £400 not to produce the six tonnes at all, the EEC saves money and the farmer still gets his income. Mrs Thatcher can surely understand this simple calculation."

Herr Kiechle said that half of West Germany's 700,000 farmers depended solely on their farms, which represented generations of family tradition. Sixteen thousand smallholders had gone to the wall this year because of EEC cutbacks. "If I am an obstacle, it is in a human cause," he said, thumping the table. "At the EEC Farm Council I always say, how will this or that measure affect the farmer?"

West German farmers had become mistrustful, he said, because, although Bonn bore the greatest budget burden in the EEC, it also suffered the worst farm cuts. Thanks to milk quotas, which involved West German sacrifices, the butter mountain had declined from 1.35 million tonnes to 763,000 tonnes.

Other positive signs included the potential use of agricultural products for industrial purposes and the readiness of some farmers to use land for ecological aims. But most surpluses were either static or even increasing, and the search for a solution to the farm crisis had to be intensified between now and February.

White House fury at ethics attack

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Senior White House officials lashed out in a extraordinarily bitter reaction yesterday to suggestions that the Reagan Administration is lax on government ethics and that Washington is awash with "loose money" used for influence-peddling.

The outburst followed a wide-ranging attack on ethical standards in government by Mr Whitney Seymour, the independent counsel who was prosecutor in the perjury trial of Michael Deaver, the former top White House aide who was convicted on Thursday.

Mr Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said that any prosecutor worth his salt "always goes before the jury and tries to posture himself in the most sanctimonious and self-righteous manner possible and it appears that Mr Seymour forgot where he was temporarily. He was not before a jury."

He went on: "His comments are an insult to the people in Washington. They are an insult to government civil servants, as well as political leaders throughout the country."

He took particular exception to Mr Seymour's criticism of Mr Reagan for having issued a statement after Deaver's conviction in which the President and his wife exprssed sorrow for the outcome and praised their long-time personal friend.

Mr Seymour said the President had "let the country down" by not sending the right message to the American people. Mr Fitzwater, emphasizing that he was expressing personal views, said he found it outrageous that Mr Seymour "would find it wrong for one friend to feel sorry for the hardships of another friend."

After the verdict in the Deaver trial Mr Seymour called a press conference and delivered a scathing assessment of influence-peddling by former government officials and said that the Watergate era Ethics in Government Act, under which Mr Deaver was prosecuted, was riddled with loopholes.

The problem was too much "loose money" and too little concern about ethics in government. "Vast sums of money are on call to representatives of major corporations, defence contractors and foreign governments to buy influence and favours," he said. "Much of that money is paid to consultants whose stock-in-trade is their friendship with persons in high office."

He has sent recommendations to Congress for closing the loopholes and exemptions that he said had made the law too weak.



Physicist heads for life in London without his snow boots

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent



Miss Wine: Success after 14 years of patient persistence.

WANTED: A kind home in Moscow for one pair of hand-made Russian woven-felt snow boots, thickly rubbed with cod liver oil.

Dr Viktor Faermark, a Soviet physicist, will not be needing them again. After personal appeals by Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan to Mr Gorbachov, he has been told that he is free to emigrate to Britain, where even his fur hat will probably be redundant.

Yesterday, with the temperature in London 20 degrees higher than in Moscow, Dr Faermark was giving away the boots, thermal underwear, a mountain of books and all the possessions a man of 46 might be expected to own. Soviet human *glasnost* has not yet been extended to belongings. Even his treasured copy of *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* will have to go. The impenetrable mind of Soviet bureaucracy forbade him to post it to London to avoid carrying it out.

Back in London possessions were the last thing on the mind of Miss Andrea Wine, aged 35, an American management consultant resident in Britain. For the first time Mrs Faermark, as she may now be known, is about to start living with the man she married two years ago.

If the British and Soviet leaders share half the credit for her husband's freedom, the rest belongs to her. It has taken her 14 years of extraordinary persistence against odds that often seemed hopeless. Miss Wine, born in New York of Austrian-origin stock, met Dr Faermark in 1973 while studying Russian at Leningrad University. Both Jewish, they were drawn together.

His future was already behind him, even though he had a PhD to his credit and had worked in the promising field of semi-conductors. From the moment he fell in with the refuseniks and applied to emigrate in 1971, his career prospects vanished.

The same could have been said of their hopes of marriage until Mr Gorbachov changed the political map. After her return to the West, Miss Wine relied for years on letters and occasional visits to keep the relationship alive. "He applied for permission to leave every three months, but was always refused," she said. The reason given was that he had had access to state secrets.

President Reagan's first summit meeting with Mr Gorbachov in Geneva in 1984 created the political climate which allowed their marriage to take place in Moscow. But there still seemed little hope of living together.

The final refusal came through in November, a month before the Washington summit. Miss Wine knew that Mrs Thatcher had already raised her husband's case with Mr Gorbachov during her visit to Moscow last spring.

With a little help from the American media, she and four other spouses divided from their Soviet partners obtained a meeting with President Reagan four days before the summit meeting. She asked how he would feel if he could not be with Mrs Nancy Reagan. Four hours later the State Department told her they had fixed it. Now the Soviet authorities have confirmed the good news directly to Dr Faermark. He is expected to join her in London in two weeks.

"It is so commendable of Mrs Thatcher and Ronald Reagan," Miss Wine said yesterday.

But what of her own persistence? "It just seemed the natural thing to do. If I hadn't wanted it enough, I wouldn't have done it," she said.

● **Many held:** Mr Mykola Rudenko, the prominent Ukrainian dissident who arrived in Munich from the Soviet Union on December 13, yesterday said that many Soviet citizens were still imprisoned for their beliefs, and that "the most terrible prison in the world", the notorious Perm "special regime" camp, was still functioning (Alexander Johnson writes).

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

Desperate Democrats hunt for viable White House challenger

The crisis in the Democratic Party borders on the absurd. With only 11 months to go, there is still not a viable Democratic presidential contender. The party is stuck for now with the former Senator Gary Hart, one of the most distrusted politicians in America, as its front-runner. The Rev Jesse Jackson, who is unelectable, is a close second. The rest of the seven-man Democratic pack is notable only for its stunning mediocrity.

Unless the Democrats find a serious challenger, they will lose the White House for the fifth time in 20 years. America is not in the mood for protest candidates like Mr Hart and Mr Jackson; they want a "Cuomo" and he is playing coy. So the net is being thrown wider and some new names are being drawn in: Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia and Mr Thomas Foley, the powerfully impressive Democratic leader of the House of Representatives.

A latecomer has tremendous disadvantages in any normal presidential race, but this contest is not normal. Between them Mr Hart and Mr Jackson have enough support in their respective yuppie and black constituencies to delay, and possibly to block, the emergence of a *bona fide* front-runner from the present drab team. Yet Mr Hart does not have much chance of ultimate victory and Mr Jackson has none. They lead the pack because they are well-known, not because they are popular. Democrats are desperate for alternatives.

A charismatic new entrant, boosted by good will and a surge of publicity, might be able to break through in the bigger primaries and caucuses. Or he might wait for his opportunity at a deadlocked Democratic convention, which has become a real possibility now that Mr Hart has re-entered the race and gummed up the process. It is suspected widely that Governor Mario Cuomo of New York is playing just such a waiting game. He denies it, of course, in an unconvincing way, which only adds to the Democrats' disarray.

Washington View
By Christopher Thomas

Senator Bradley is a solid Easterner, articulate and mainstream. Senator Nunn, a Southerner, is reasonably well-known nationwide because of his respected expertise on defence. Representative Foley, a Westerner from Washington state, is one of the best television performers on Capitol Hill. He knows European leaders well; his knowledge of world affairs is impressive. He was the only politician in Washington invited by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov last week to breakfast, lunch and dinner.

While the Democratic hierarchy ponders its next move, Mr Hart is banking on winning the New Hampshire primary on February 16. If he loses, his bid will probably wither and die right there in the snows of Concord. If he wins, he will make it immensely difficult for anybody to become the legitimate Democratic front-runner.

And he does stand a good chance of victory, simply because New Hampshire is so untypical. It is small and suited to a lean campaign. Mr Hart is well-known from his surprising 1984 victory there over Mr Walter Mondale. A penniless outsider can make it in New Hampshire.

Mr Hart has no money for advertising campaigns, but he will command what political people call "free media" – what others call news. The cameras will trail him everywhere. Even though his campaign themes of education and military reform are far too complex and serious for the nightly news, the "character issue" will remain newsworthy for a good while yet. Senator Edward Kennedy's Chappaquiddick, after all, lasted for years. Mr Hart will have no trouble keeping on the air waves, even if the publicity is not to his taste.

The Democrats' campaign has already been trivialized by Mr Hart's re-entry. Columnists are tantalized by him; they analyse the man more than his politics. One accused him this week of acting out teenage fantasies. Another said that his ambition overrode every other consideration. He is described as "risk-addicted". It is said that, after 16 years in politics, he has decided to come back and act out the end of his personal story. He alluded to that himself this week: "I had to finish off what I began."

The next chapter will be in Iowa, on February 8. Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts is favoured in the polls to win that critically important caucus; if he does so, and eight days later makes a good showing in New Hampshire, he could start squeezing out Mr Hart. The Democratic national committee prays that something of the sort will happen. It wants Mr Hart stopped, and soon.

But for now, according to an ABC news poll, Mr Hart and Mr Jackson together control 50 per cent of the Democratic primary vote. It is an astonishing paradox that they also carry the highest disapproval ratings from the broader electorate.

Cross-border tension in East Africa

Moi expels Uganda envoy and closes Gadaffi's embassy

From Paul Vallely, Nairobi

Kenya yesterday ordered the expulsion of the Ugandan High Commissioner and the closure of the Libyan Embassy in Nairobi, after this week's heavy exchanges of fire along the Kenya-Uganda border.

The move marks a nadir in relations between the two Commonwealth countries, which have been engaged in an increasingly vitriolic propaganda war since 1984.

Earlier this week fierce gunfire was exchanged for three days across the border, and more than 16 people are reported to have died.

Several explanations have been offered for what precipitated the worst clash between Kenya and Uganda for years. In one version, Ugandan soldiers crossing into Kenya to settle a score were said to have been shot dead by Kenyan police.

Another report had Kenyan paramilitary forces crossing into Uganda to dismantle a roadblock. A third version was that the Ugandan Army, tipped off about a major smuggling operation, had stationed four soldiers too near the border.

The closure of the Libyan Embassy reflects the prevalent Kenyan Government belief that Colonel Gadaffi is using Uganda to undermine the regime of President Moi. Kenyan newspapers have, in their reports of the gun battles, made a number of unsubstantiated claims that Libyans were involved in the fighting on the Ugandan side.

The announcement of the expulsions, like everything else in this mushrooming episode, was clouded with confusion. The Kenyan Foreign Ministry yesterday said that Mr Charles Katungi, the High Commissioner, was being expelled because on Wednesday, the third day of the border clash, he had accused the Kenyan President of lying in his account of the incident.

That, at any rate, was how the *Kenya Times*, the official newspaper of the ruling party, reported his remarks. This provoked outrage in the Kenyan Parliament on Thursday. MPs who had read only the newspaper account demanded that Mr Katungi should be deported.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday described the Commissioner's words as "an incredible insult on the person of President Moi". The Ugandan diplomat and his deputy, Mr Samson Bigombe, were given 24 hours to leave.

But later, Mr Katungi held a press conference at which he maintained that he had said no such thing. He had merely distributed copies of a speech in Kampala by President Museveni which had spoken of "false allegations" but made no mention of "lies".

Mr Katungi said he had twice explained all this to the Foreign Ministry, but they had refused to listen. Allegations about Libyan activity at the border were "absolutely ridiculous", he said. "I am totally puzzled as to why relations have reached this unfortunate stage."

The Libyan Embassy was being closed, according to the Foreign Ministry statement, because "it has been used consistently for gross interference in the internal affairs of Kenya". Libya has long been a favourite bugbear of Kenya, which has for many years



President Museveni: Links with Mr Moi never cordial.

accused Tripoli's diplomats of spying or of inciting dissent against the Moi regime.

The Libyan Ambassador, Mr Ahmed Khalifer Arrajel, was expelled on December 3 after violent clashes between the police and students which the Government claims were Libyan-inspired. The leader of the student union was subsequently jailed for five years after allegations that Libya had given him £700 to finance his campaign for office in return for his services as a spy. The Libyan Embassy has since remained open only under an administrative officer.

Only eight months earlier, the previous Libyan Ambassador and four other diplomats were expelled after similar allegations. Not long afterwards, Nairobi claimed that Colonel Gadaffi was training more than 200 exiled Kenyans to bring about the overthrow of President Moi. It also claimed, again without producing evidence, that the 200 had been given Ugandan passports to travel to Libya.

Western diplomats in Nairobi are sceptical about the seriousness of Libyan activity. One said: "There is a fairly fine line between spying and gathering information in the way which is part of a diplomat's normal duties. The difference is often in the eye of the beholder."

There was no immediate news of the position of the Kenyan High Commissioner in Uganda. But reports from Kampala said that the Ugandan Army High Command was issuing firm statements about the need to stand resolute against Kenyan blackmail. Some 12 Ugandan civilians had been killed in the border crossfire, in addition to the deaths of three Ugandan soldiers and a Kenyan civilian announced earlier.

Other reports said that petrol rationing had already been introduced in Uganda, which has no warehouse reserves and depends for its entire supply on traffic across Kenya from the port of Mombasa.

Relations between President Museveni of Uganda and President Moi of Kenya have never been cordial.

President Moi is understood to have felt humiliated by President Museveni's actions after the 1985 peace conference hosted by Kenya to end the Ugandan civil war. After reaching an agreement, President Museveni returned to Uganda and largely ignored its provisions, taking the opportunity to trounce his opponents.

President Museveni later made some general remarks about "big, fat-cat African leaders" who were lining their pockets and not helping their people. That caused great personal offence to President Moi, who believed it had been directed at him.

One aggravating factor for the dispute, cited by many observers here, is that President Museveni plans to reduce the use of lorries to export Ugandan coffee via Mombasa, and instead to rehabilitate Uganda's shaky railway system. This annoyed the large Kenyan trucking industry in which many government ministers, including President Moi, are said to have shares.

Until this week, however, the venom had been largely verbal. At the Commonwealth leaders' summit meeting in Vancouver in October, Kampala put out feelers for a meeting between the two presidents. It did not take place, but officials did meet and the political climate improved greatly.

First Lady hopes for Leningrad visit



Mrs Nancy Reagan, the US First Lady, emphasizing a remark during a White House interview in which she said that the President was pleased with the outcome of last week's summit with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov. She brushed aside reports that her relationship with Raisa, the wife of the Soviet leader, was cool, and said she had told Mr Gorbachov that she would like to see Leningrad and the Hermitage art museum. "I didn't get a 'nyet'. I don't think I got a 'da,' either," Mrs Reagan said. In a wide-ranging, sometimes emotional interview, Mrs Reagan said that she agreed with Mr Gary Hart – who has just re-entered the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination after pulling out amid intense speculation about his relationship with a Miami model, Miss Donna Rice – that a politician has a right to a private life. She told the Associated Press news agency that the intense scrutiny of candidates will "make it awfully hard for good people to go into politics". She also looked back at the troubles of 1987 and said: "It's not been a great year. It's been the lowest I think you can get." Mrs Reagan expressed sorrow over the felony conviction of long-time friend Michael Deaver, and said she and President Reagan had been advised by counsel to suspend their personal relationship with him as long as appeals were pending. She had a cancerous left breast removed in October and suffered the loss of her mother, Edith Lucket Davis, nine days later. "I wish I had had a little more time to recuperate before mother died," Mrs Reagan said tearfully.

Prague to be denied a second Spring

Prague (AP) – Czechoslovakia's new Communist Party leader, Mr Milos Jakes, has vowed not to revive the Prague Spring reforms, which were crushed by invading Soviet troops in 1968, in a speech that gave little indication whether he will rush into Gorbachov-style reforms.

In his first speech after taking over from Dr Gustav Husak as party leader on Thursday, Mr Jakes gave a pledge of "uncompromising struggle" against corruption and said he wants to work in a "democratic creative atmosphere".

A full text of the speech, released only yesterday by CTK news agency, contained little indication that the conservative Mr Jakes will speed reforms in Czechoslovakia. The Prague leadership has been cautious about following the reforms of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, which are similar to many of the ideas espoused by Dr Husak's ousted predecessor, Mr Alexander Dubcek, in the Prague Spring.

As the man responsible for the purge of half a million party members after the invasion by Warsaw Pact forces in 1968 crushed Mr Dubcek's reforms, Mr Jakes took a firm stand against any suggestion that current reforms would resemble the changes mooted then.

He urged the party's 1.7 million members to unite and resist what he called attacks from abroad in connection with the looming 20th anniversary of the 1968 reforms, which began in January that year.

"Social ownership of the means of production, planned economy and the leading role of the working class and the Communist Party – these are principles attacked in 1968 by right-wing opportunists and revisionists," he said.

"There is no doubt that also today our opponents would like the economic restructuring and a restructuring of social life to bring about a retreat from the fundamental principles of socialism. They will not live to see that. We took a lesson from 1968-1969 and know where such a retreat leads," he said.

"We must react to the attacks of enemies which will undoubtedly appear in connection with the 20th anniversary of events following January 1968, and these attacks will grow stronger," Mr Jakes predicted.

He went on to emphasize the orthodox Communist tenet that the party must control both personnel matters and the economy, apparently ruling out any key role for non-Communists.

Mr Jakes, who headed the party's economic commission for six years until replacing Dr Husak as party leader, said four new laws designed to introduce cautious reforms would be put before Czechoslovakia's rubber-stamp Parliament early next year.

This indicated further delay in adopting even the careful reforms Prague has made to date to loosen its economy and improve performance.

Czechoslovak officials have said for the past year that their economy is performing poorly and needs reform.

Under Dr Husak, Czechoslovakia gained a reputation abroad as one of the Soviet bloc nations dealing most sternly with dissent, cracking down on human rights and religious activists and the promoters of culture independent of the state-run arts and media.

Leading article, page 11

Prague (Reuter) – Czechoslovaks are so interested in changes in the Soviet Union that a new book by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, *Restructuring and New Thinking for our Country and the Whole World*, sold out all 42,000 copies as soon as they arrived in the shops here, the news agency CTK reported.

Clamp on aircrews after US disaster

Washington – US airlines have been ordered to put all employees through the same detection equipment as passengers (Christopher Thomas writes). The order follows the crash of a commuter jet in California, after the pilot was apparently shot by a disgruntled former airline employee whose hand baggage had not been searched.

A hand-gun was found in the wreckage of the Southwest Airlines plane, which crashed on December 7 after the pilots reported shooting on board. All 38 passengers and five crew were killed.

The rule, ordered by the Federal Aviation Administration, takes effect on Monday and covers air crew and ground staff, and will also affect foreign airlines operating at US airports. At present, crews and other employees walk around checkpoints in uniform or when wearing an airline identity badge.

Guerrilla goes

Berne (Reuter) – Switzerland extradited to West Germany Gabriele Tiedemann, a guerrilla of the Red Army Faction, who had served two-thirds of a 15-year jail term for wounding two border guards.

Death by fire

Dhaka (Reuter) – Mrs Niljan Bibi, at 120 the oldest citizen of Bangladesh, was burned to death by unidentified attackers who set fire to her home apparently because of a land dispute.

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Call of despair

Sydney (Reuter) – Two Australian seamen drowned when their submarine dived while they were in the conning tower tried desperately to telephone for help, an inquiry into their deaths heard.

Barter deal

Pretoria (AFP) – South Africa and Malawi have signed a $5.5m (£3m) barter trade agreement – 20,000 tons of South African maize for 10,000 tons of Malawi peanuts – the first such agreement between the two countries.

Shock of life

Oernes, Norway (AP) – A Swedish doctor restarted the heart of a woman aged 50 after a cardiac arrest by giving her electrical shocks from a wall socket, using aluminum foil and the cord from an office lamp. She is said to be recovering well.

Rail protest

Madrid – Most Spanish trains stopped intermittently as employees of the state-run railway network began a series of work stoppages in a dispute over employment conditions.

Drought adds to Ortega's woes

From David Golloh, Managua

Although Nicaragua is entering one of its worst crises in recent years, with 400,000 people facing possible starvation, the Sandinista Front remains firmly entrenched in power.

Crop failure brought on by drought has resulted in an 80 per cent loss of production in food staples, forcing the Government to declare an emergency in three regions and to appeal for urgent international assistance.

Shortages have already caused the collapse of the Sandinista Government's subsidized food distribution network in several population centres, while inflation is galloping out of control.

A new 20,000-córdoba (40p) banknote issued two months ago has already lost nearly half its value on the black market. A 50,000-córdoba note entered circulation this week.

A 100 per cent rise in the minimum wage, announced at an assembly of Sandinista trade unions last week, has already been eaten up by leaps in official food prices.

The admission by government officials that there was no short-term solution to the economic crisis caused anger and consternation even among militant Sandinista labour leaders, according to a source at the meeting.

Discontent and bewilderment over sudden policy reversals in recent months have affected morale among rank and file Sandinista militants. Meanwhile, the recently published allegations of a top Sandinista defector "may cause disillusionment and a shake-up in the party structures", according to a source close to the Sandinista leadership.

Major Roger Miranda, until his defection two months ago the personal aide to General Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister, has said that the minister has a private Swiss bank account containing $1.5 million (£825,000) in army funds diverted for his own use. The defector also alleged that senior Sandinista officials had received bribes from drug-traffickers.

Major Miranda's revelations of government plans for a big military build-up, including the arming of nearly every able-bodied man and the acquisition of advanced weapons systems from the Soviet bloc, have caused alarm among party moderates, who fear that the country has embarked on a course of uncontrolled military growth that will ultimately prove to be self-destructive.

The revelations favour the Reagan Administration's efforts to win congressional approval for a further $270 million in funding for the Contras.

At the same time, party hardliners are unhappy over what they see as a willingness



President Ortega: Change of mind on talks with Contras

to make too many concessions in order to achieve a negotiated settlement of the conflict.

The decision on November 5 to begin indirect ceasefire negotiations with the Contras, a significant reversal in policy, was opposed by the powerful Interior Ministry, the source said, while a partial unilateral ceasefire declared in October angered senior military officers.

Bowing further to pressure, President Ortega announced on Wednesday that face-to-face talks between the two sides' technical advisers would take place when ceasefire negotiations resumed in the Dominican Republic on Monday. The Government had previously ruled out direct talks.

The political crisis resulting from the breakdown this week of dialogue with Nicaragua's civilian opposition is the least of the Government's worries. The negotiations, mandated by the Central American peace plan, were meant to achieve a national consensus on democratic reform. The talks collapsed after the Government rejected a 17-point opposition proposal for constitutional reform.

"The people don't care about the dialogue," the source said. "The traditional opposition speaks a foreign language. If you were intelligent you could get a lot of people out on the street in demonstrations, but the opposition alienates people."

Visiting US congressmen, US embassy staff and reporters nearly outnumbered demonstrators at a recent anti-government rally in Managua. Similarly, the turnout at other anti-government demonstrations in recent months has been much lower than the level of discontent would lead one to expect.



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Contrasting results of the government victory in South Korea's election

Students and police in pitched battle over 'ballot rigging'

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

Mounting anger at the result of South Korea's presidential election sparked a pitched battle between riot police and students in an industrial district of Seoul yesterday, followed by a series of running clashes in the city centre.

The fighting began when about 2,000 students and other dissidents occupied a municipal office where a ballot box, said to contain absentee votes, was awaiting transport to a counting station. The protesters claimed the box was filled with false voting papers and was one of many which had ensured victory for Mr Roh Tae Woo, the ruling party's candidate, in Wednesday's election.

Thousands of police stormed the five-storey building at dawn, backed by volleys of tear-gas grenades and high-pressure jets of water.

Forced to retreat to the roof, about 100 students started a fire and fought off two police assaults with rocks, roof tiles and petrol bombs before being overwhelmed. At the height of the two-hour battle, thick mattresses were laid around the building when demonstrators threatened to jump from the roof.

A police spokesman said later 36 people had been injured, 24 of them policemen, and 12 vehicles parked nearby had been destroyed by fire. More than 1,000 people had been arrested.

Shortly afterwards, about 1,000 students who had gathered at Yonsei University tried to march to the City Hall plaza for a protest rally, but found their way blocked.

The crowd dispersed into small groups which then clashed with security forces.

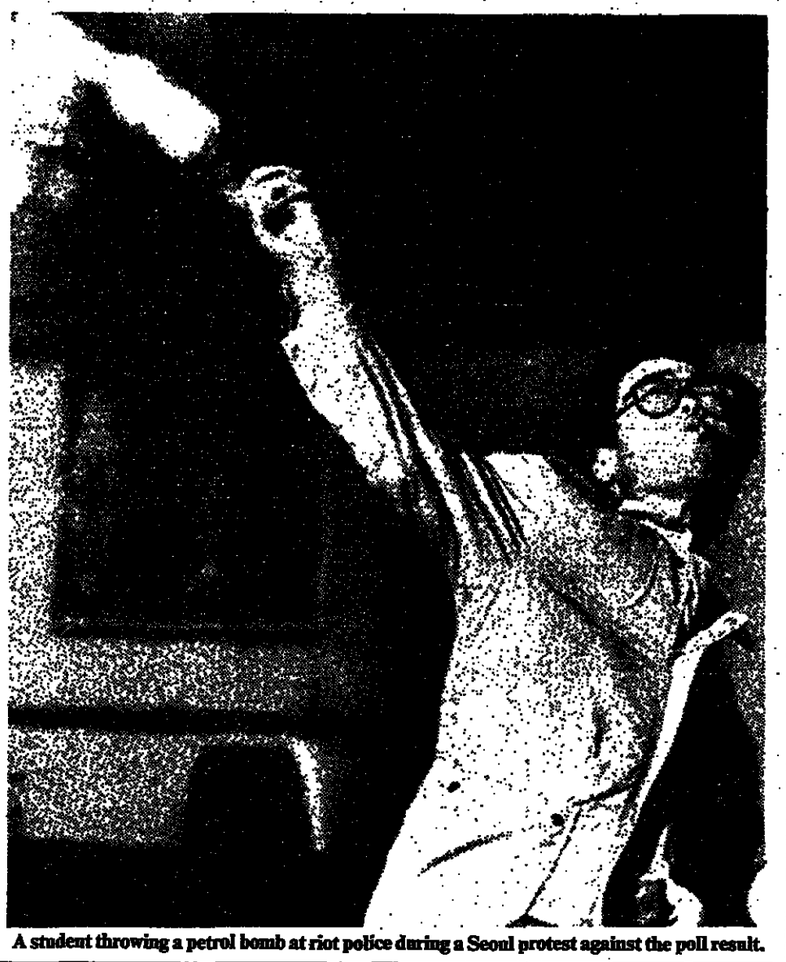
Similar violence raged for the second day in the southern city of Kwangju, the stronghold of the opposition leader Mr Kim Dae Jung. A correspondent of *The Times* at the scene said the mobs also turned their anger on American reporters. Police reported 230 arrests after demonstrations in 11 other provincial cities on Thursday.

President Chun Doo Hwan, who is due to step down in February, issued a strongly worded statement saying the security forces had exercised restraint during the election period. Clearly feeling that by sparing the rod he had spoiled the child, Mr Chun said: "The Administration will now deal sternly with any and all illegal and disorderly acts. We should all rid ourselves of the election fever and get back to productive work."

The opposition has bitterly rejected the official count, which gave Mr Roh victory over his two main opposition challengers by almost two million votes.

A delegation of US congressional aides who observed the poll said yesterday its members had witnessed several abuses, ranging from bribery and corruption to violence.

In an attempt to defuse the situation, Mr Roh offered yesterday to meet the opposition leaders to discuss democratic reforms due to be implemented when he assumes office.



A student throwing a petrol bomb at riot police during a Seoul protest against the poll result.

Shares soar as Roh win lifts Seoul economy

From Our Own Correspondent, Seoul

In contrast to the political furore sparked by the South Korean presidential election, the result has boosted confidence in the country's economic future.

The victory of Mr Roh Tae Woo, of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, has been greeted with cautious optimism by the business community, which expects him to pursue the successful economic policies of the incumbent Government.

Their reaction quickly became evident from soaring share prices on the Korea Stock Exchange as early results gave Mr Roh a substantial lead. The Composite Stock Price Index rose a record 19.27 points to close at 491.44.

Expectations that the Government will move to boost the market to celebrate Mr Roh's election success, coupled with rumours of imminent measures to curb real estate speculation, contributed to the bull market.

South Korea's main economic organizations welcomed the result, while calling for improved industrial relations, commodity price stability and easing of frictions with major trading partners.

The Federation of Korean Industries said: "Our business community will exert further efforts to expand investments and to realize industrial democratization on the basis of political and social stability."

The economy has expanded rapidly with low inflation under the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan, with annual growth rates of 12 per cent in the past two years, fuelled largely by an export boom.

Mr George Robinson, a securities analyst with the W.I. Carr group, said there was a general feeling that the economy would continue to be well managed and remain reasonably strong to resist outside pressures.

"Business leaders do not feel threatened by Mr Roh the way they did by the opposition candidates. They are very happy to have him in power, and are more confident about investing profits."

Critics of past and present governments contend that South Korea's economic advances have been realized at the expense of its labour force, which has been the backbone of its strategy of low-wages and high exports.

In keeping with his policy of controlled democratic reforms, the president-elect has advocated the formation of independent trade unions, more employment opportunities for the elderly and a gradual transfer of state enterprises to the private sector.

He has also pledged a more equitable distribution of income and improved social benefits for workers, but has warned against excessive wage demands and protest violence, which could damage exports.

Amid the general euphoria, however, there is concern about inflation, labour unrest and strained trade relations with the United States.

Within hours of the election, Mr Sakong Il, the Finance Minister, instructed his officials to withdraw from circulation money released by presidential candidates and their parties during the election campaign.

The Central Bank estimated that more than £1 billion was pumped into circulation in December, resulting in inflationary pressure.

Consumer prices have risen by 6 per cent in the past year, exceeding the Government's target of 4-4.5 per cent.

Mr Roh will be hard pressed to restrain wage demands, after agitation by workers last summer which resulted in their securing increases of about 20 per cent.

Mr Robinson said: "The unions will want to confront Roh and extract the maximum concessions from him. Employers are anxious. They know they will be lucky to get away with 10 per cent next year."

South Korea is also under external pressure, notably from the United States, to devalue its currency and to reduce its surplus in trade between them, which is expected to exceed £4.4 billion this year.

Washington has been threatening to curtail Korean imports unless Seoul takes more concrete steps to open its markets to American companies. During a visit to the United States earlier this year, Mr Roh indicated that his administration would do so, but at a slower pace than the Americans would like.

He also suggested that Korea was being unfairly victimized due to America's inability to solve its problems with the Japanese. His remarks struck a positive chord in Korea's business community, which is now looking to him to fulfil his pledges.

Seoul (Reuter) — Final poll figures last night showed Mr Roh Tae Woo the winner with 8.28 million votes (36.6 per cent); Mr Kim Young Sam second with 6.34 million; and Kim Dae Jung third with 6.11 million.

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Letter from Harare

A sudden rage for pangolins

The heads of Zimbabwe's numerous sectional interests are reported to be scowling at an object that appears to be intruding more and more into the busy schedule of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

On four occasions this month, Mr Mugabe has slipped out of his office for televised engagements while private-sector chiefs, ministers and foreign diplomats were left pleading with his private secretary for an appointment.

The diversion has been created by the pangolin, an armour-plated creature with a tongue as long as its body, whose only defence against predators is curling up into a tight ball and emitting a foul odour.

A nocturnal animal, the pangolin — or scaly anteater — has become a *cause célèbre* in the past three months. Peasants from all over the country have been turning up at the steps of Mr Mugabe's office at the Munhumutapa building to present him with pangolins.

He has been given 23 so far, 19 of them since October. Mr Simon Muzenda, the Deputy Prime Minister, has taken delivery of eight, and President Banana has received three.

Each time the local press is notified and turns up at the respective leader's residence or at Parliament to record the handover for the nation. The offering, doubtless traumatized after a lengthy bus trip from some remote corner of the country, is filmed as it curls up in terror.

What is turning into a national joke — township prostitutes, also regarded as a "lucky catch", have been nicknamed pangolins — has its roots in the centuries of tradition among Zimbabwe's dominant Shona-speaking people.

The flesh of the pangolin is regarded as the sweetest and most tender of all animals, and the local chief is considered the only person fit to eat it. Any commoner killing it will anger the ancestral spirits and cause a drought. Usually the chief rewards the giver with one of his daughters or a couple of oxen and roasts the skinned beast over a fire.

But the technocratic and conservation-minded Mr Mugabe has none of this. The giver is rewarded with no more than a "thank you' and the satisfaction of appearing in a 10-second spot in the evening television news. The gift pangolins are then handed over to the Department of National Parks, and deposited in a game sanctuary outside Harare.

The Chronicle, the daily paper in the western city of Bulawayo, raised eyebrows with an editorial arguing that the custom had less to do with expressing esteem for the chief than currying his favour.

One anthropologist here has suggested that the phrase "beware of peasants bearing pangolins" summed up the rage. The issue has captured the imagination of local cartoonists, *The Chronicle's* Boyd Maliki depicting a line of plump businessmen queueing outside a "rent-a-pangolin" service.

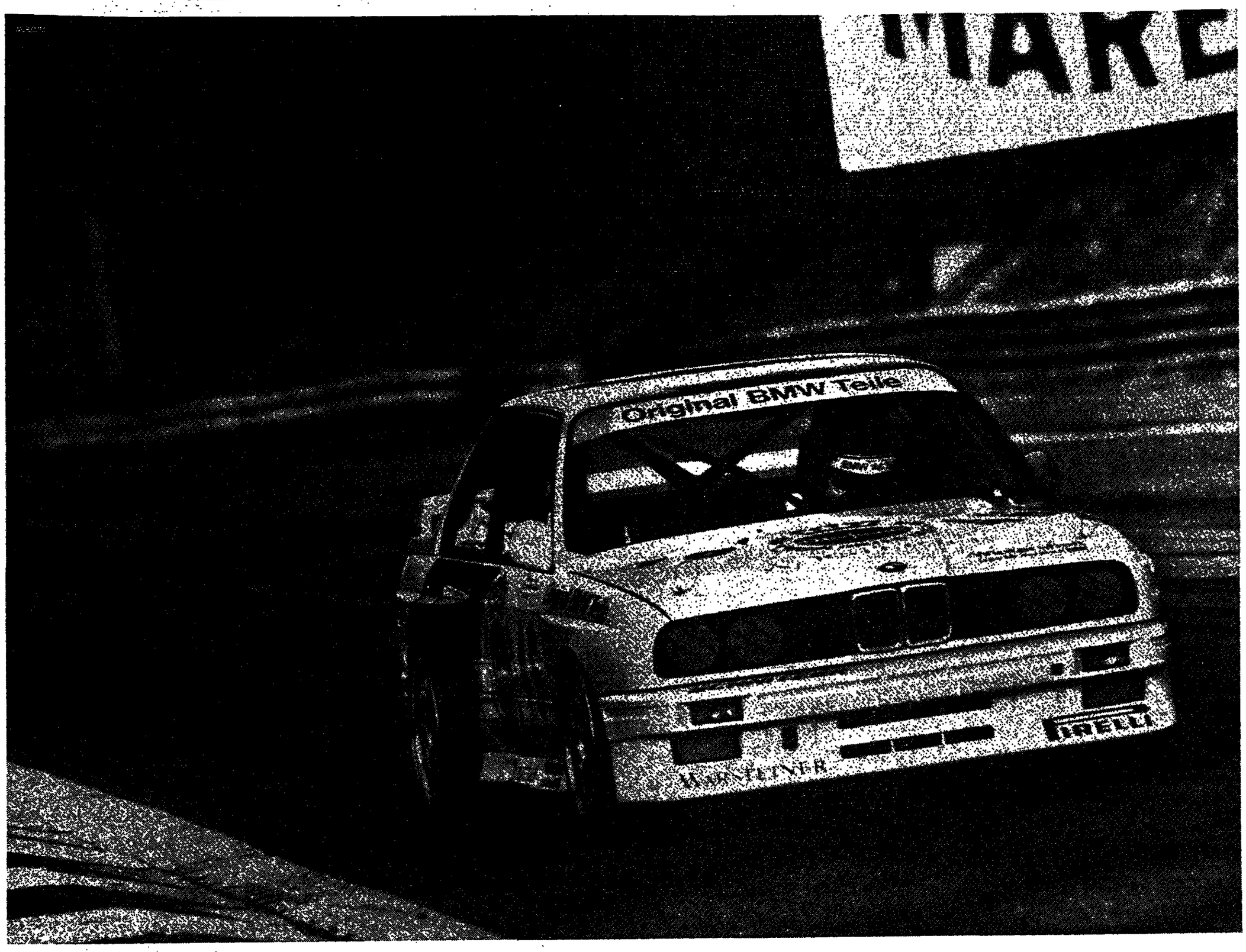
Conservationists, too, have been stirred and question what the rash of pangolin-napping has done to its population in the wild.

The animal occurs in widely scattered pairs and produces a limited litter. Attempts to rear them in captivity have resulted in a high death rate. If the rash of presentations continue, conservationists fear that the shy and harmless creature will rapidly become extinct in Zimbabwe.

Jan Raath

هكذا من الأصل

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Sorry, run right out

Here is a Christmas suggestion from John Wisden and Co, and it comes from the most recently published edition of *Wisden*, the cricketers' bible. For just £3, he offers one superior bag with name engraved, one cane bat, one pair of chamois pads, one ditto batting gloves and one match ball. If you are *very* fond of a cricketing gentleman, for £6 you can get him one all-hide Marylebone bag with name engraved, one treble cane handled bat, one pair best shoes (spiked), one best match ball, one cricket shirt, one ditto cap, one pair best white leather leg guards, one ditto batting gloves. The bargains are advertised in the 1881 *Wisden*, just reprinted in facsimile by Willows Publishing at £24 (or four de luxe cricket outfits).

On the brawl

The headquarters of the Brazilian Football Association has become Rio de Janeiro's No 1 spot for punch-ups between middle-aged gentlemen. Fight One involved Reubens Hoffmeister, president of the Gaucho League, and Marcio Braga, president of the club Flamengo. Braga was mildly rude about Hoffmeister in the newspapers, and when the two met, at a press conference of all indiscreet places, Hoffmeister asked if he had been correctly reported. Yes, was the uncompromising answer. The rest was all flying fists and popping flash bulbs. Fight Two involved the president of the League of Recife, who went to the FA and was set upon by six men from the Bangu club who felt they had been hard done by in a recent violent match.

CB radio

Scholar, triple blue, sumptuous bat . . . C.B. Fry is one of cricket's greatest legends. So splendid a man was he that he was once offered the throne of Albania. But Fry's life was not all glittering prizes: traditional heroic views ignored his bizarre marriage, his wife's taste for sadistic discipline, his disappointments in later life and his eventual breakdown. It is a strange, sad tale, and is told in *I Could Have Been King*, a play by Brian Glanville that goes out on Radio 4 on Monday night.

● **Who can match the Vauxhall-Opel League for the number of its backroom girls? With 88 clubs, it has one female chairman, seven female club secretaries, three female programme editors and three female physios.**

Backing Brian

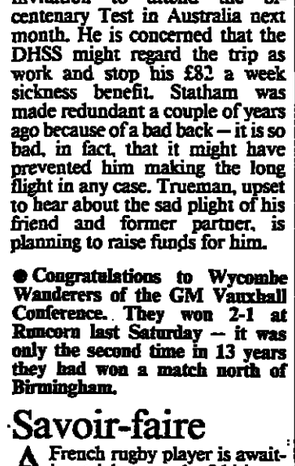
The saddest story of the week concerns former England fast bowler Brian Statham — the unrelentingly accurate half of the double act with Fred Trueman — who is unable to take up his invitation to attend the bicentenary Test in Australia next month. He is concerned that the DHSS might regard the trip as work and stop his £82 a week sickness benefit. Statham was made redundant a couple of years ago because of a bad back — it is so bad, in fact, that it might have prevented him making the long flight in any case. Trueman, upset to hear about the sad plight of his friend and former partner, is planning to raise funds for him.

● **Congratulations to Wycombe Wanderers of the GM Vauxhall Conference. They won 2-1 at Runcorn last Saturday — it was only the second time in 13 years they had won a match north of Birmingham.**

Savoir-faire

A French rugby player is awaiting trial accused of biting a police dog. Stephane Crespo of the minor club Yzon was involved in a 45-0 defeat, and afterwards, in rugby's grand tradition, he had a certain amount to drink. He was stopped by the police later that night, when driving a car without lights. Crespo ran off and was pursued by a police dog named Shaft. Then, the police allege, there was a brief but violent struggle in which Shaft was bitten on the ear, but did manage to inflict a little damage himself. Both combatants needed repairs afterwards, and Shaft was given three days official leave. Crespo was charged with drunken driving, obstruction, driving without insurance, voluntary wounding (dog) and *rebellion aux agents de la force publique*. He will be tried next week.

BARRY FANTONI



'To love and honour, till my job do us part . . .'

Moore's health much improved by Labour lash

by Robin Oakley
—Political Editor—

During the enforced rest caused by his bout of bacterial pneumonia, John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, has seen the political kaleidoscope shaking into a pattern that just a few months ago he could hardly have dared hope for. Far from being abashed by the furious assault on the government's handling of the NHS, he believes the Labour Party has played into his hands.

The sheer ferocity of the attack and the orchestrated chorus it has evoked from doctors, unions and medical administrators has driven most Tory MPs into a defensive huddle, when a more sophisticated Opposition might have exploited doubts about the validity of Mrs Thatcher's promise that the health service was safe in her hands. Moore also believes that the furore has compressed a three-year debate into three months.

He has wanted to launch that debate, in order to win public agreement to recast the health service, ever since he was handed the poisoned chalice of the DHSS in the post-election reshuffle. But he knew that the Tory leadership had agreed before the election not to tackle the re-funding of the NHS in this parliament. Now the subject is out of the cupboard and every option — a boost for health insurance schemes, vouchers, health stamps, ending free treatment for non-urgent conditions, "hotel charges" for hospital stays — is open for discussion.

The Prime Minister, who was frightened off such a move before the 1983 election by premature disclosure of the government's outline thinking, has wasted no time in launching her No 10 policy unit into the discussions.

Previously, ministers were tacitly agreed that the subject was politically impossible to embark upon until public opinion had been moved to the point where it accepted that the NHS was struggling to meet an infinite demand in a world of finite resources. Now, though senior Tory MPs may still recoil from the furious Commons slanging matches between Neil Kinnock's adjectives and Mrs Thatcher's statistics — saying, as one told me this week: "We've got to get her out of the front line on the NHS" — they believe that thanks to Labour such a moment of opinion change may be approaching.

Even Moore's own decision to have his pneumonia treated in a private hospital near his home has helped the debate. When he made his decision he believed that if he used the National Health Service he would be accused of getting special treatment and jumping the queue. As it is, he has exercised the right of choice and can say he has preserved more resources for the treatment of another patient, drawing attention in the process to the arguments about the future relationship between private and public medicine.

But where will Moore attempt to take the health service? He gave the first clues in September, emphasizing how years of welfare provision had made people too dependent on the state. "Dependence in the long run decreases human happiness and reduces human freedom."

The climate of opinion had to be changed. The government had to bury the idea that the post-war welfare state had been created in perfect form. The next step forward in the "long evolutionary march" of the welfare state in Britain was away from dependence toward independence. That was enough of a clue that in Moore's welfare state we will see much more private provision.

In his party conference speech a little later emerged the phrase that is the key to Moore's thinking — "a mixed economy of care". The Tory government, said Moore, was committed to the health service in principle and in practice. But he was already aware that the question of providing "enough" funds for the NHS was a public relations battle which it had become impossible for a modern government to win.

Yes, the Tories are providing more money, more nurses, more doctors, more hospitals than their predecessors. More people are being treated, more operations performed. But Mrs Thatcher's handbag full of statistics will not win the battle. Not while every cottage hospital that is closed means six months of campaigning stories in the local press and every big new general hospital that opens 10 miles away wins a single headline on the day of its opening. Nor will it be enough to ensure that the £21 billion a year we spend on the NHS is spent to the best advantage, with better management and control.

Providing more money has become a political necessity, as the government conceded this week by allocating another £100 million. But if the Tories' other political objectives are to be met, that money cannot come simply from the pockets of the taxpayer. There is room for the public, the private and the voluntary sectors to contribute.

Moore will embark on the battle to establish that with another major speech next month after a recuperative spell in the clear mountain air. The battle will be long and hard, but Labour's fury and apparent success has helped Moore. By pouring so much firepower into the NHS debate Labour has in fact drawn attention to the infinite demands which now exist and helped raise among many thoughtful people the question of how it is all to be paid for.

The Tories have succeeded in other areas of policy by presenting Labour as a rigid party looking resolutely to the past. They may now have been given the chance to do so on the health front as well.

Owen Hickey on the vexed question of financing cathedral upkeep

Unheavenly box office

No one who is drawn to one of the ancient cathedrals of England this Christmastide will be left in doubt as to its need for building funds. If scaffolding outside does not proclaim it, notices inside do, set out with varying degrees of importunity. And there are the national appeals, with Peterborough latest in the line for £1.8 million.

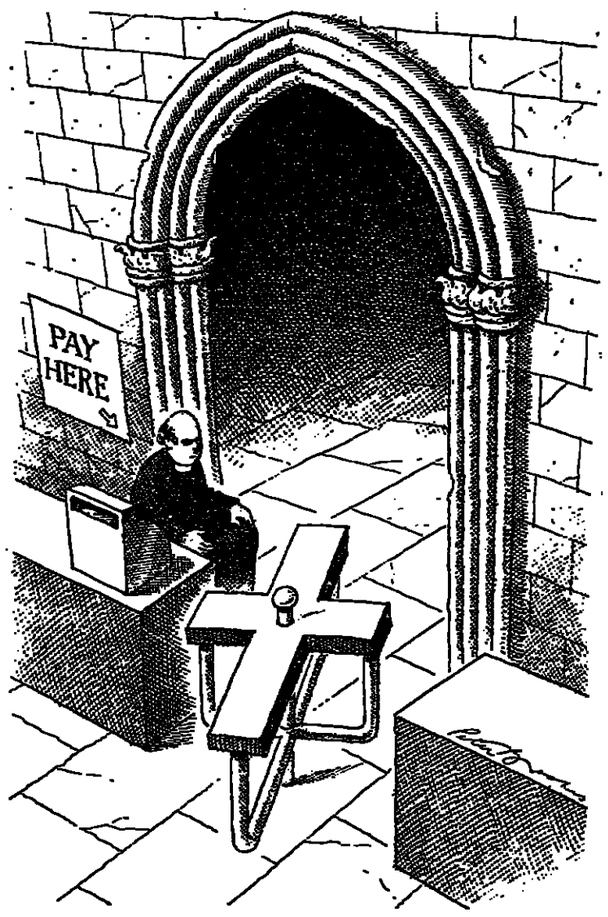
Ever since the Whigs roused them from their Hanoverian slumbers by taking away their money the cathedrals have been up against it. There were times last century when their utility as anything other than memorials was seriously called in question. But they held up. A tradition of choral worship was maintained; so was their fabric. Slowly they resumed a place of importance in the pastoral life of the diocese.

In the ages in which they were built and rebuilt they were statements of faith, shrines, places of pilgrimage. They were also places of power, and what is now called growth-points, provincial centres and a focus of the life of the community. Some of that is trickling back. Writing in *The Tablet* recently the Dean of Winchester, the Very Rev Trevor Beeson, claimed that in the second half of this century the cathedrals have moved from somnolence to become "centres of renewal".

He paused to regret the departure of the scholar from the cathedral close; but the scholar has been replaced by "a new generation of deans and canons who are concerned to discover how the great churches can be more closely related to the changed and changing regional communities in which they stand".

The pastoral and civic aspects of cathedrals are now indeed more evident. They hum with tourists as never before. They also remain hard pressed for upkeep.

Cathedrals are not at present eligible for state aid. The Commons select committee on the environment recommended earlier this year that they be made eligible. The case is cogent. The state has assumed a financial obligation towards the "national heritage", and the obligation is not much controverted. The ancient cathedrals are unquestionably an important part of that heritage, whether considered for what they are or for the economic activity (tourism mostly) they help to generate, which is the bar before



which public expenditure of this sort is now required to stand. Therefore the cathedrals ought to qualify for grant in aid provided the usual conditions can be met.

The first condition is that the building be of outstanding architectural or historic interest. No problem there. The public must have reasonable access. No problem there either. The requirements of listed building control must be satisfied. Under a 70-year-old convention church buildings in use are not subject to scheduling as ancient monuments or to listing controls. Archbishop Davidson, fearful of secular interference in liturgically sensitive matters, was able to appeal to a sufficiently good record of past care and was granted exemption. Instead the Church of England has a well developed inspection and faculty procedure of its own, which in the case of parish churches has already been accepted as an adequate substitute for the purposes of grant.

Finally those responsible for a building that attracts grant must stand in need of public assistance for its maintenance or repair. The select committee took that to mean, reasonably enough, that self-help must be exercised before public funds arrive. Noting the swarms of visitors and comparatively meagre sums they collectively contribute in donations (York for instance: maintenance costs £600,000 a year; 2.5 million visitors; £359,000 given; average 14p), the committee recommended that before the grant rules are changed in their favour "all cathedrals should introduce a recommended, but not compulsory admission charge of at least £1 per head" with half price for the usual categories. It also recommended an equalization scheme between them to benefit cathedrals like Ely, voracious of maintenance money but off the tourist beat. The committee was confident that acceptable ways could be found of remitting the charge to "worshippers".

Most cathedrals already make a gesture in that direction and some approach the intimidatory means introduced by Sir Roy Strong at the Victoria and Albert Museum to levy a "voluntary" admission fee. The deans and provosts of the English cathedrals have just come out with a joint response to the select committee's report. They accept the principle of self-help-first, and acknowledge the duty of making "even more diligent and concerted efforts" to increase the cathedrals' income. But they come down firmly against fixed charges at the door.

They have several objections, one of which is simple and ought to be accepted as conclusive: such charges "militate against the character of the building as a house of God and a place of pilgrimage and prayer". To post up an admission fee and bolster the request for it with barriers or beady eyes is to contradict the nature of the place. Being in their nature fixed and valid, cathedrals make the past present and reflect the present in their past.

The Dean of Winchester suggested that the other churches in England would be warmly welcomed if they were to ask for the use of the cathedrals or for a share in their corporate life. That sounds ecumenically up-to-date. But here we are in 1899: "The canon used to wish that more use could be made of cathedrals as a centre of worship. He would have had them opened to Christians of all denominations. 'But till that day comes', he said, 'the clergy and laity of the Church of England are the best trustees of the national possession, and they have not broken their trust, though they may have been negligent from time to time'." No need to quarrel with that, so long as the trustees have nothing to do with gate money.

Danger: child abuse inquiry at work

The report of the inquiry into the death of 21-month-old Tyra Henry comes barely a week after publication of the Kimberley Carlile report. They are but the latest of nearly 40 child abuse inquiries since the Maria Colwell report first shocked the nation in 1974.

Do these inquiries still serve any useful purpose? Are there any new lessons to be learnt from them? Or do they simply reproduce the findings of earlier inquiries and offer recommendations which are largely ignored? Are they, as many social workers believe, little more than expensive exercises in apportioning blame?

That they are expensive is undeniable. The Kimberley Carlile and Jasmine Beckford inquiries each cost about £250,000 while the cost of the Tyra Henry inquiry is likely to approach £500,000. For hard-pressed and rate-capped authorities such as Greenwich, Lambeth and Brent, the financial burden is considerable. A spokesman for Greenwich has been reported as saying despairingly that she had no idea how the Kimberley inquiry bill, most of it legal fees, would be paid.

Of course, if the inquiries resulted in better protection for children then their cost would be entirely justified. But there is little evidence that they do. For example, the widely respected report by Louis Blom-Cooper QC into the death of Jasmine Beckford contained more than 60 recommendations but the most crucial, those with financial and legal implications, have not been acted upon. Nor have the deficiencies in social work training (a constant theme of inquiries) been resolved. Moreover, the government's own white paper on child care law, which sets out proposals for the protection of children, has been collecting dust for nearly a year.

But perhaps the greatest cost of inquiries is their debilitating impact on morale. The Tyra Henry inquiry, for instance, led to bitter feuding in Lambeth and created enormous distrust between councillors and staff. The effects of the Jasmine Beckford report are still felt in Brent, where dozens of social work posts cannot be filled; and in Greenwich, social workers are outraged by what they see as the singling out of one of their number for public vilification.

It is this last factor which may well spell the end of child abuse inquiries of the kind we have become used to. Social workers, observing the fate of some of their colleagues, may simply refuse to co-operate with them. Consider, for example, the actions of the social worker at the centre of the Kimberley Carlile case, Martin Ruddock. By all accounts conscientious and respected, he volunteered a lengthy personal account of his involvement in the case, an account described by the inquiry team as "moving, reflective and self-critically analytical". He was entirely open about his errors of professional judgement and made no attempt to avoid the blame for them. In short, he co-operated to the full in order that the truth be made known.

Others were also involved in the case. But they, like some involved in the Tyra Henry case, exercised their right not to appear before the inquiry. Some would say that they were wise to do so, for it is Mr Ruddock's face we now see across every newspaper; it is Mr Ruddock who, the inquiry recommends, "should not in the future perform any of the statutory functions in relation to child care"; it is Mr Ruddock who is found to be "the prime candidate for blameworthiness in failing to prevent Kimberley Carlile's death"; it is Mr Ruddock who no longer has a job.

In 1974, the social worker involved in the Maria Colwell inquiry was pilloried by the media and physically assaulted by members of the public. Six years later, recalling the shock of that humiliation, one of her colleagues reflected that the treatment meted out was utterly "beyond one's experience". Today, that experience hangs over the head of every social worker, affecting their attitude to their work and the decisions they take. It explains some of the rise in the number of children taken into care and many of the 30,000 names on "at risk" registers; it also explains why accusations are made against social workers of riding roughshod over the rights of parents.

Mr Ruddock, while accepting most of the inquiry's criticisms, has stated that the full story has yet to be told. Other social workers, along with their unions and legal advisers, are likely to conclude that co-operation is a dangerous option.

The duty of social workers to explain their actions is undeniable but it does not extend to being used as a scapegoat. Child abuse inquiries, through over-use, are in danger of becoming little more than expensive show trials. If this happens, social work itself will be the loser for, as Martin Ruddock has pointed out, "social workers should not be asked to operate in conditions which make good social work impossible, especially in a society that is prepared to pillory a social worker for making a bad decision. I live daily with my responsibilities in this case, and it hurts."

David Dale

The author is a London social worker.

Robert Kilroy-Silk

Refuge, right or wrong

Viraj Mendis has been in sanctuary in the Church of the Ascension in Hulme, Manchester, for the past 12 months. He has taken refuge in its tiny sacristy to avoid being deported to Sri Lanka as an illegal immigrant. He says that if he is returned home he will be "executed, if not by the government then by the right-wing fascist gangs" because of his "unconditional support for the Tamil people's struggle".

I don't believe him. I don't believe that many if any Sri Lankans have ever even heard of him, or have any knowledge of whatever it is that he is supposed to have done to advance the Tamils' cause. It cannot have amounted to very much. He has been in Britain since he arrived here as a student in 1973 and has spent much of his time since on social security. If he has fought for the Tamils it has been a rather undistinguished fight waged from the comfort of Hulme rather than from the front line in Jaffna or Trincomalee.

It's true that terrible things have happened to some of the Tamils and their supporters — and to those on the other side. It is also true that when I visited the island a couple of years ago as part of a parliamentary human rights delegation I met many who professed the same revolutionary communist creed as that held by Mendis and his friends. They expressed it openly. Life was very difficult for them, as it was for others, but they have not been "executed". It is also the case that the British government says it has no evidence that Mendis is or will be in any danger and the Sri Lankan High Commissioner has volunteered assurances about his safety.

But all this is irrelevant. It is a smokescreen. The truth is that Mendis just does not want to go home. He says so. "Why should I go?" he asked on a recent *Kilroy!*. "It is outrageous for Britain to deport people from countries whose wealth they have stolen. If I accept their 'immigration' law I'll be collaborating with racists." He would rather be a prisoner in the church.

That was his choice. What is distressing is the way in which the church and some of its vicars have been beguiled into supporting him and are being used to challenge the law enacted by a democratically elected government. Father John Methuen, rector of the church, justified his action by laying down five criteria for granting sanctuary.

These were, he told me, that sanctuary will be offered if the person was a resident of or had been closely connected with Hulme for some time; had not been involved in criminal activity; had not been involved in violence; that all procedures and appeals had been exhausted; and that there was "real danger of monstrous injustice or even death".

Armed with these the well-intentioned but "misguided and rather naive" cleric, as one of the locals described him, feels entitled to defy the government and the law. The fact that Mendis's case has been rejected by a lawfully constituted immigration tribunal and thrown out by the High Court cuts no ice. He knows better. He has no doubts on the issue. This unelected person has taken the right to override the decision made by the legislature, the executive and the judiciary. And if there was any need of further justification for his high-handed elitist action then he resorts to the fiction that "the church has always been in conflict with the state".

Nor is there any problem about the kind of laws that can be flouted. They are the "unjust laws". Who decides what are unjust laws? The vicar. Neither he nor some of his more genuine supporters appear to have any idea of how stupid and dangerous is the game they are playing in lending the temporary cloak of clerical respectability to this spurious campaign, nor how they are being duped by the more politically serious and cunning.

If the vicar can set himself up as the judge of which laws are to be obeyed, then so can everyone else. It's a fine example he is setting to every criminal and malcontent. Some of those who might exercise the freedom sanctioned by the rector will not be as civilized as are the priest and Mendis, will not choose the same laws to defy, and will certainly cause greater distress in the breaking of them. But if he can take the law into his own hands then so can everyone else. Who is to say otherwise? Do we also extend sanctuary to those convicted of picket line violence, to those convicted of criminal damage at Greenham Common and to all those who, fighting the "good fight", happen to come up against unjust Tory laws?

What matters is that the law is seen to be fair and just in falling equally upon everyone — without fear or favour — and that the police have no partiality in enforcing it. For Viraj Mendis to be allowed to remain in his refuge suggests, wrongly, that there are doubts about the fairness of the law, and fears about the police applying it. These doubts should be removed. If the laws are "unjust" then they must be changed by the proper democratic procedure. In the meantime, no vicar and no church should be allowed to extend a privilege to one man that is denied to thousands of other illegal immigrants and to everyone else.

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The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

Michael Kinsley

Those good old Reagan days

Washington

One of the most famous passages in American journalism appeared in *Life* magazine. "At night, before we'd go to sleep, Jack liked to play some records; and the song he loved most came at the very end of this record. The lines he loved to hear were: *Don't let it be forgot, that once there was a spot, for one brief shining moment that was known as Camelot* . . . There'll be great presidents again . . . but never another Camelot."

And, what's more, Jacqueline Kennedy was right. Theodore White's article, published just a few days after John F. Kennedy's assassination, coined the Kennedy-Camelot metaphor and helped to encase Kennedy's administration in a shiny coating of nostalgia that has never cracked. Eisenhower nostalgia, a growth industry in recent years, still has nothing on it. Lyndon Johnson nostalgia doesn't exist, though LBJ was a far larger figure both personally and historically. For liberals, there'll never be another Camelot. And for Americans generally, the early 1960s are remembered as a time of happy innocence, before Vietnam, Watergate, inflation, Opec, the Ayatollah, terrorism, and so on.

At the moment, conservatives are furious at President Reagan. Howard Phillips, a prominent right-wing scold, has called him "a useful idiot for Soviet propaganda" because of his support for arms control. They are dismayed by his recent reasonableness on tax increases, by the Bork/Ginsburg Supreme Court fiasco, and by his love-fest with Gorbachov.

But this fury really represents the first flowering of Reagan nostalgia, which has emerged in full bloom though the man himself still has another year left in office. It is the truth behind the bitter conservative joke: "This never would have happened if Reagan were still alive."

Conservatives will spend the rest of their political lives mourning the loss of Ronald Reagan, which occurred spiritually around October 1986. Their children will grow up on tales of past glory, which will grow in the retelling. The early 1980s will be remembered as an age of innocence and optimism like the early 1960s. Reagan, like Kennedy, will get credit for the golden memories.

Seventeen months ago, at the peak of Reagan's popularity, *The Wall Street Journal* heralded "the onset of an era" — of permanent conservative political dominance and the triumphal vindication of conservative nostrums of economic, social, and foreign policy. The era didn't last long.

Even if a Republican wins the presidency next year, he will be a mainstream moderate, pallid and uncharismatic, and will have to deal with a Democratic Congress. Whether Democrat or Republican, he will reach some kind of *modus vivendi* with the Sandinistas. He will not build Star Wars. He will propose or at least reluctantly endorse new social programmes. He will certainly face terrible economic problems that are the actual legacy of Reaganism, but which Reagan nostalgiacs will blame on his failure to keep the faith.

For them the Ronald Reagan of today is a betrayer of the legacy of the "real" Reagan. No matter what their future political journeys they will convince themselves that whatever they don't like about the current situation would never have happened when Reagan was president.

Reagan nostalgia has the potential to be an even more oppressive presence in American political culture than Kennedy nostalgia. The Kennedy cult was immeasurably enhanced by the fact that he was snatched from us in the prime of life and early in his tenure. But Kennedy never achieved the God-like presence in his lifetime that Reagan enjoyed barely a year ago.

Far more than Kennedy, Reagan convinced millions of Americans that he had found the secret of everlasting prosperity, peace, and general contentment, and convinced his political allies that they would never be out of power again.

Of course the expulsion from Eden was preordained. Magic doesn't work forever, either in managing the economy or in managing the world. Furthermore, political swings aren't permanent, either, however they might seem when the pendulum hits one end of its arc.

Who will emerge as keepers of the flame of Reagan nostalgia — the Arthur M. Schlesingers, the Pierre Salingers of the Republican Camelot? Now, no one is vying for the honour. But it won't be long before memories of the new Reagan fade away and people will think again of the old Reagan, and how great life was around 1983.

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The author is editor of New Republic.

هكذا من الاصل

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

THE TIMES
1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

COST OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY

The poll tax is a bad tax. It takes no account of people's ability to pay and it may be widely defied. If it really were a tax, its enemies would be right to try to kill it; but it is not. It is a charge. It may be a bad tax, but it is not a bad charge.

This is not playing with words. The difference between a tax and a charge is crucial, though it is too late to stop us all referring to the new local government impost as a tax. "Poll tax" fits more snappily into a headline than "community charge". Once the community charge is seen as a charge for services, rather than a tax on income, it becomes justified.

The system which it replaces — the rates — does not take account of people's ability to pay either. True, the needy receive help with the rates, but they will also receive help with the community charge. The rates incorrectly assume that, because someone lives in a house which has a high rateable value, that person also has a high income.

The battle over the broad principles involved in the community charge ended with the Bill's second reading on Thursday night. The committee stage and third reading will be the time for detail. The Bill's opponents will win concessions and will deserve to. But they never undermined the broad principles.

The most important of those is accountability. The opponents never had a better way of making local government more accountable to local voters. Local government today is the one area where 18th and 19th-century critics of the mass franchise could claim posthumous vindication.

Those critics feared that the universal franchise would lead to unscrupulous radicals winning votes and power from the masses by promising to tax the better-off and distribute the proceeds to the less well-off. At the level of national government that did not happen — or not as much as was feared. Very soon, the newly-enfranchised masses realised that their interests would not automatically be served by money being taken by radical politicians from the better-off. Eventually, they realised that there was simply not enough money to be taxed from the rich to pay for the things promised by those politicians. The voters realised that they themselves would have to pay. Today they tend to vote nationally for politicians who promise to tax them less — not tax the rich more.

But this has not yet happened at the level of local government. There, candidates can still win power without making voters pay the cost of the grand schemes and of the panderings to minority interests. This is because so many voters never have to pay. Of Britain's 35 to 36 million voters, only 18 million pay rates. Of those 18 million, only 12 million pay rates in full. Three million receive partial help; three million have the rates paid for them entirely. The full rate is paid by only a third of those eligible to vote in local elections. In some places, such as Liverpool, the number is one in four — an oddity not much dwelt upon by those who are constantly discovering vagaries in the community charge.

If one were looking for anomalies, one could ponder the anomaly of taxing houses rather than people. Rates are a tax on houses; yet houses do not use parks, or public libraries, or vote, or send their children to school, or have their minority tastes subsidised by various politicised advice centres. The people who do should have to decide how badly they want these services or how much should be spent on them. If a link can be established between voting and paying for what is voted for, there is a chance of local elections becoming about local issues — rather than being apathetic, low-turnout opinion polls on the national Government's performance.

The Government says the community charge should be £178 per annum, per head — the average cost of local government services at present. It will tend to be much more than that at first, since even councils which want to curb spending will be coping with the legacy of the previous system. In parts of London, especially, it will be hundreds of pounds more. That £178 is the Government's highly idealised calculation of the cost of a basic service. Too basic, opponents will say. But voters will have been given the chance to decide that.

As the Bill goes through Parliament, the Government should be receptive to MPs and peers who are genuinely concerned about possible hardship among community charge payers. But anything resembling a local income tax should be avoided. Such a change would mean that in the minds of the local voters (and in their pockets) the community charge would be subsumed into their general taxation. The direct link between local services and local cost would be destroyed. Establishing that link is the reason why the community charge should be supported.

PERESTROIKA IN THE PACT

The group photographs of last week's Warsaw Pact meeting in East Berlin said it all. Alongside Mr Gorbachov, who looked confident, authoritative and energetically middle-aged, were ranged weary and sombre figures from another time. On Thursday, one of them — the Czechoslovak leader, Gustav Husak — resigned. Eastern Europe's political glacier had begun to move.

Whether its movement was started by a signal from Moscow may never be known. The speed of the Kremlin's response suggested, at the very least, a willing endorsement. Mr Husak, though visibly ageing and ill, was a survivor. Slow to absorb the change of vocabulary in Moscow, he had none the less started to pay lipservice to the *perestroika* and *glasnost* of his Kremlin masters. Others were better qualified than he to lead Eastern Europe's old communists into retirement.

Janos Kadar in Hungary was older and to all appearances more fragile. Todor Zhivkov in Bulgaria, while a willing exponent of the new terminology, had found his country's economic performance rated lower by Moscow than he might have hoped, given his ideological conformity. Erich Honecker could have been expected to bow out gracefully, having achieved long delayed visit to the Federal Republic.

Even Nicolae Ceausescu, at 69 the youngest of the old East European leaders, looked less secure in office than Mr Husak. Romania's failed economy, its strange Stalinist nationalism, and the renewed threat of civil unrest all made Mr Ceausescu a prime candidate for replacement. Now that Mr Husak has gone, the chances that any of the others will remain in power for long look distinctly slimmer.

But Czechoslovakia was, and still is, a special case. Mr Husak was the chief beneficiary of the Brezhnev doctrine and the Soviet tanks required to enforce it. He came to office at Moscow's behest to restore Soviet orthodoxy to people who preferred Alexander Dubcek's interpretation of socialism and he had never seemed comfortable with the post-Brezhnev order. When Mr Gorbachov projected himself as reformer-in-chief, and was received as such by crowds in Czechoslovakia last spring, his discomfiture was complete. Mr Gorbachov's stated objectives seemed too close to those of Alexander Dubcek for Prague 1968 not to be resurrected.

In the past year, Czechoslovakia's pro-regime commentators have produced long and complicated arguments to explain why the new Soviet orthodoxy is different from the policies of the Dubcek months and why there can be no return to the spirit of 1968. Within hours of taking office, the new Czechoslovak leader, Mr Milos Jakes, offered variations on the same arguments, and so crushed the faint hopes that had been aroused by the demise of Mr Husak.

Whether Mr Jakes will — despite his opening statement — follow Mr Gorbachov in pursuit of *perestroika*, he will probably show himself to be a good Muscovite and toe the new line. Eastern Europe's communist leaders, old and new, now face an unaccustomed situation. The Soviet Union is, perhaps for the first time since 1917, in the advance guard of change and more attuned to the thinking of many in Eastern Europe than their Brezhnevite leaders are.

East Europeans have suppressed for years their sense of cultural and political superiority *vis a vis* Moscow. They now find themselves having to pretend that they did not foresee today's economic and political difficulties. They have to pretend too that their earlier attempts at reform were misguided and that Moscow was always right. Having complied thus far, they must now hope that the change of leaders and the change of generation presaged by the fall of Gustav Husak will improve their lot. They deserve something better.

FOURTH LEADER

Finnish drama students not long ago put on a performance which differed markedly from what is usually thought of as a theatrical experience. When the audience was seated, the players took all their clothes off, hurled fireworks and other missiles at the spectators, and ended the proceedings by climbing down off the stage and chasing the audience into the street with whips.

It is no use pointing out that neither Sir Henry Irving nor Lord Olivier ever behaved like that. Art cannot stand still. It is the artist's right — duty, even — to push out the frontiers of the possible. Only, it is perhaps legitimate to think that the spirit of artistic endeavour rather ran away with somebody.

The drama's laws the drama's patrons give. So, at any rate, it has hitherto been believed. Now a new terror has been added to a visit to the theatre, going far beyond such minor irritations as finding the car clamped at curtainfall, or finding the play unbearable. Most of us are willing to do a bit in the way of audience participation; singing along with the hero, hissing the villain, applauding to signify our belief in fairies at *Peter Pan*. But are we to go to the theatre, from now on, not knowing whether we are going to be subjected before the evening is out to a wide variety of assaults?

Perhaps the theatre could take a leaf out of the cinema's book, and have a symbol, printed beside the play's details in the listings, which indicates whether members of the audience should arrive armed. Alternatively, an enterprising management, putting on a play like the one staged by the Finnish students, could sell insurance in the foyer along with the chocolates. The dear old *Mousetrap* still reassures nervous patrons with an announcement to the effect that there are no revolver shots in the play; one can only hope that Dame Agatha Christie's estate, licensing a Finnish translation, would write into the contract a stipulation that no extra "business" might be introduced.

Beachcomber's Dr Strabismus (Whom God Preserve) of Utrecht once held a political meeting. He spent the evening heckling the audience, and ended by throwing tomatoes at them. "I seem," he said, "to have got things rather mixed up". But he was notoriously absent-minded; the Finnish thespians could hardly plead an absence of *mens rea*. If they did, their plea got short shrift, for the local magistrates sentenced the lot to seven months apiece, mercifully suspended while they are of good behaviour. But what, one asks oneself, might such performers think of as good behaviour?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cricket board inconsistent?

From Mr Alan Herd

Sir, I am the solicitor who has represented Mr Ian Botham in matters of a disciplinary nature with the Test and County Cricket Board for a number of years. It seems to me that the board has been inconsistent in its attitudes and decisions on the recent problems in Pakistan.

Last year, before the England tour of Australia, all prospective invitees to the tour were asked by the board to accept a clause in their touring contract effectively banning them from making statement to the media. That was a totally new provision and was included in all the tour contracts. The England players in Pakistan have recently acted in breach of that provision by issuing a public statement to the press (report, December 12).

The board representatives have said, however, that they will be taking no action. Yet, four years ago, when there was no such clause, Ian Botham was fined £250, on the spot, by the tour manager for a ghost-written article which contained comments about an Australian umpire.

In March, 1984, Mr Botham made his well-known remark about sending his mother-in-law to Pakistan " all expenses paid". He was fined £2,000 by the board for bringing the game into disrepute. Now the England captain has said he never wants to go to Pakistan again and the England tour manager has said that the quality of umpiring was likely to deter players from going to Pakistan in the future. No action by the board.

In 1985, Mr Botham was fined £1,000 for showing dissent from an English umpire's decision in a Test match here. Those who remember that incident will know it was as nothing compared with the dissent shown by English batsmen in Pakistan. No action by the board.

The saga of Michael Gatting, an England captain, remonstrating with the umpire in the Faisalabad Test match will no doubt be the subject of discussion for a long time. Sufficient to say that the board has now given its full backing to the England captain — first having forced him to apologise to the umpire for his actions!

I wonder what standards of consistency of behaviour the employer, the board, can expect when that body itself is so inconsistent. As Mr Botham himself said last week (report, December 9), he would probably have to "do 30 years' hard labour" for committing any of the acts or voicing any of the opinions that have recently received so much publicity.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN HERD,
17 John Street, WC1.
December 16.

Westminster scanner

From Dr P. K. Barnes and Mr T. P. V. Battle

Sir, The CT (computerised tomography) scanner at this hospital has not "broken down" as stated in your report (December 17) on Lord Whitelaw's being admitted here, but is being replaced by a more modern model which will be in service at the beginning of January.

Because the new machine is being installed in place of the old one there is a period of time when neither is available for use. During this period we have access to similar facilities at the Charing Cross Hospital, an arrangement which works well.

Both our scanners have been provided largely through private donations and we greatly appreciate this generous support to the hospital.

Yours sincerely,
P.K. BARNES (Chairman,
Medical Executive Committee),
T.V.P. BATTLE (General Manager),
Westminster Hospital,
Dean Ryle Street,
Horseferry Road, SW1.
December 18.

Burdens of age

From Miss C. Duxbury

Sir, So Mr Crawford (December 16) refers to an elderly woman as an "aged crone". What is his term for an elderly man?

Yours faithfully,
COLLEEN DUXBURY,
98c Hartfield Road,
Wimbledon, SW19.

Children in hospital

From Miss C. A. MacDonald

Sir, I would like to challenge some of the remarks on paediatric nurse training made by Mr Babulal Sethia, quoted by Brian James in his Spectrum article of November 25. Mr Sethia is reported as saying that the training programme for Registered Sick Children's Nurses (RSCNs) does not include a component of intensive care nursing and that this certificate is irrelevant for paediatric intensive care nurses.

I would like to remind Mr Sethia, and others who may think likewise, that children's hospitals exist because the needs of sick children are often entirely distinct from those of adults, both in relation to their clinical management and treatment and in their need to be nursed in a child-oriented environment where the staff are sympathetic to the needs of parents and involve them as much as possible as partners in care.

I have spoken to several senior nurses working in children's intensive care units and without exception they would prefer a trained children's nurse without previous ICU (intensive care unit) experience to a trained "general" nurse with ICU experience. One can teach staff relatively quickly how to use some of the complex machinery in the unit but one cannot so quickly teach all the aspects of caring for a sick child that are taught during RSCN training.

The English National Board have now published an outline curriculum for a course in intensive care nursing of children of RSCNs, and approval is being sought for this course in several leading centres.

Yours sincerely,
C. A. MACDONALD,
(Director of Nursing Services),
Royal Manchester Children's Hospital,
Pendlebury, Nr Manchester.
December 10.

Denial of a 'Spycatcher' allegation

From Mr Malcolm Turnbull

Sir, I have recently been supplied with copies of the transcript of the *Spycatcher* proceedings in London before Mr Justice Scott. In the course of his submissions Mr Robert Alexander, QC, for the Attorney-General stated that the leak of information from *Spycatcher* to *The Observer* and the *Guardian* in June, 1986, came from Mr Wright's lawyers. The clear suggestion was that I was responsible.

This allegation is wholly false. The first I learnt of the "leak" was in the Supreme Court of New South Wales of June 24, 1986. We were before Mr Justice Powell on some interlocutory matters and counsel for the plaintiff, Mr W. W. Caldwell, produced photocopies of the articles from *The Observer* and the *Guardian* and none too obliquely suggested that I had been responsible for them. I refuted the allegation and Mr Caldwell withdrew it.

I stated then that if the plaintiff had reason to believe I had been in breach of any undertakings to the court it should say so in plain terms and take proceedings against me for contempt. No such proceedings have been brought.

Instead of this allegation having been made in a forum where I could immediately answer it, it has been aired in the privileged surroundings of an English court. I am not unduly sensitive to criticism. In my line of business that is hardly becoming. But Mr Alexander and those instructing him should know enough about natural justice to realise that allegations of this kind should be made in circumstances where the victim has the opportunity to be heard.

At the very least the court should have been advised that I had denied the suggestion in the Supreme Court in Sydney and that the Attorney's counsel had withdrawn it.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM TURNBULL,
Malcolm Turnbull & Co
(Solicitors and attorneys),
60 Park Street, Sydney 2000,
New South Wales, Australia.
December 18.

Unfinished business

From the co-Chairman of Scientists for the Release of Soviet Refuseniks

Sir, In his recent interview with NBC Television, Mr Gorbachov said that the only reason why would-be emigrants are detained in the Soviet Union is that they have knowledge of state secrets.

An international symposium 12 days ago in Brussels, attended by scientists from a dozen countries, was devoted wholly to an examination of state secrecy. The scientists considered both the nature of information claimed to be secret and the practice of security in the Soviet Union and the West. They examined in detail cases in which applicants for emigration from the Soviet Union had been denied visas because of their security classifications, and concluded unanimously that "the large majority (at least) of such classifications are spurious, being juridically unsound, arbitrary in practice and scientifically implausible".

In these days of greater realism and openness in the conduct of its affairs, may we hope that the Soviet Union will abandon this false pretext for preventing its citizens from joining their own families abroad.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. YUDKIN, co-Chairman,
Scientists for the Release
of Soviet Refuseniks,
4A New College Parade, NW3.
December 3.

'Crockford's' preface

From Mr Maurice Latey

Sir, The Archbishop of York's association of Dr Gareth Bennett's tragic death with media pressure is surely an example of whipping the messenger on account of the message.

The message was both the *Crockford's preface* itself and the fact that so much of the establishment of the Church of England (with the honourable exception of Dr Runcie) combined to crush it under the load of such epithets as "scurrilous", "sour" and "vindictive", thereby partially confirming the anonymous author's criticism of the "liberal" ascendancy.

The tragedy of the suicide of a priest would be compounded if his words were to be buried with his bones. Since Dr Bennett's preface is a scholarly and well-informed articulation of a very widespread uneasiness, it is to be hoped that you, Sir, will continue to keep the case on, rather than under, the sacristy carpet by your admirably full reporting.

Yours faithfully,
M. B. LATEY,
102A Philbeach Gardens,
Earl's Court, SW5.

A bad blow

From Mrs Rollo Hoare

Sir, Further to the letter from the President and the Vice President of the Timber Trade Federation (November 30), this letter published in your issue of March 1, 1929, may be of interest to your readers:

Beechwood fires are bright and clear,
If the logs are kept a year;
Chestnut only g6od, they say,
If for long it's laid away;
Make a fire of *Elder* tree,
Death within your house shall be;
But *Ash* new or *Ash* old
Is fit for Queen with crown of gold.

Birch and *Fir* logs burn too fast,
Blaze up bright and do not last;
It is by the Irish said
Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread;
Elmwood burns like churchyard mould —
E'en the very flames are cold;
But *Ash* green or *Ash* brown
Is fit for Queen with golden crown.

Poplar gives a bitter smoke.
Fills your eyes and makes you choke;
Apple wood will scent your room
With an incense-like perfume.
Oaken logs, if dry and old,
Keep away the winter's cold;
But *Ash* wet or *Ash* dry
A King shall warm his slippers by.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH HOARE,
Brent House,
North Warnborough,

Defending Europe

From the Vice-President of CND

Sir, It is unfortunate that the morning after a historic first step towards ending the nuclear arms race is taken in Washington you should publish such a singularly unhelpful editorial (December 9).

Mrs Thatcher, it states, "should make the modernisation of European defence her next frontier". That means deploying missiles on surface vessels, submarines and aircraft — a deliberate circumvention of INF (intermediate nuclear forces).

"The British and French independent nuclear deterrents must remain", the leading article insists. When the two superpowers plan to halve their strategic weapons it is incongruous that the UK should continue with hers and even increase them several times over if Trident goes ahead.

You urge that "no further nuclear concessions are made before the imbalance in conventional and nuclear weapons has been redressed". Yet Mr Gorbachov has proposed reducing conventional forces in each category to the level of the other side.

No "further" concessions? Has not Mr Reagan stated that four times as many Soviet as American warheads will be destroyed under the agreement? Concessions have been made on both sides, and further progress can only be achieved in this way.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAUN
(Vice-President, CND),
1 South Drive, Manchester.
December 9.

Visual warning

From Mr C. Raeburn

Sir, Those tempted to too much optimism over the arms treaty should study carefully the picture in today's *Times* (December 12), showing the Eastern-bloc leaders toasting the summit's success, and reflect that the Russians are a chess-playing people and that when a good chess player sacrifices a pawn the next move needs particularly careful consideration.

Yours faithfully,
C. RAEBURN,
Lower House Farm,
Norton Lindsey, Warwick.
December 12.

Cup running over

From the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Sir, I see that I am in the soup with the Dover Chamber of Commerce (December 17) due to some allegedly unpalatable remarks about Dover crockery. But I have not been so tasteless, and have in fact been misquoted. My reference was to a "chipped white cups of Dover" mentality, not in Dover, but in some areas of the public services; it was a metaphor used for the title of a pamphlet published some 25 years ago by Lord Young of Dartington, the then Chairman of the Consumers Association.

I can see that it is a little unfair from Dover's point of view to be singled out in this way; I assume it was because the mentality was thought to be generally British, and Dover is distinguished as the starting point of Britain.

No aspersions on Dover caterers were intended nor, I am sure, would they be justified.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY HOWE,
Foreign and
Commonwealth Office,
London SW1.
December 18.

Museum plans for Alamein

From the Deputy Director of the National Army Museum

Sir, I read Dr Iain Brown's letter (December 1) on the shortcomings of the Alamein Military Museum with interest. I can assure him that the Egyptian Government share his misgivings to the extent that, two years ago, they invited to Egypt representatives of the army museums of the main protagonists involved in the battle to advise on the modernisation of the museum.

The assessment of the museum which I made agrees with that of Dr Brown and the contrast with the "quiet dignity" of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery on the edge of the battlefield is most striking.

Following the visit, Colonel Dr E. Schmidt, then Director of the Wehrgeschichtliches Museum, Rastatt, and I submitted a detailed report on ways of modernising the museum. The Egyptian Government hoped that the participating nations would be prepared to provide the necessary funding, but neither the British nor the German governments felt able to support such a project.

There are, I believe, plans to develop the coastline between Alexandria and El Alamein as a tourist resort. If this happens the battlefield and its museum would presumably become a much greater tourist attraction than it is now and the necessary funding may then be forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,
BORIS MOLLO (Deputy Director and Keeper of Records),
National Army Museum,
Royal Hospital Road, SW3.
December 10.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 19 1873

Joseph Arch (1826-1919), a Warwickshire farm worker and a notable hedge-cutter, was one of the great champions of those who worked on the land. He sat in Parliament for North West Norfolk for some years

[FARM WORKER'S APPEAL TO MEN OF DORSET]

MR. ARCH. - Mr. Joseph Arch, accompanied by Colonel Denison, from the Canadian Government, attended on Wednesday evening a very numerous meeting which was held at the Town-hall, Dorchester. The proceedings were enthusiastic; a large number intended to honour Mr. Arch with a demonstration of welcome on his return from the colony. Mr Emmanuel Snook was voted to the chair. Mr. Cox, a magistrate of Belper, in Derbyshire, . . . contended that the Union had been a distinct blessing to the country and . . . had been the means of advancing wages fully 2s. per week. The speaker referred to the assertions made by Lord Shaftesbury (the Lord-Lieutenant of the county) at Weymouth, as reported in *The Times*, concerning the extravagant habits of the colliers of Scotland, and Mr. Cox said that if these statements were proved, he would present 100l. to the Dorset County Hospital. Mr. Mayor, of Blandford then proposed a resolution congratulating Mr. Arch upon the success of his tour through Canada, and welcoming him to Dorset. This was seconded and carried with acclamation. In acknowledging the compliment, Mr Arch expressed his determinatin to go on in the prosecution of his "grand and noble cause". He asked how the British farm labourer stood at the present day, submitting that New Zealand, Australia, Queensland, Canada and America were bidding double the wages offered him in his own country and that this fact, in itself, was simply shameful and disgraceful to England, where half the soil was not tilled. The agricultural population in this country had been gradually decreasing during the last ten years, and if this went on he apprehended grave results. But he recommended emigration as the best means of improving the position of the labourers . whom he warmly defended against the charge of extravagance, stating that what they wanted was not champagne, but good, substantial roast beef. . . . The country at the present time was in a precarious condition, for the rights of labour and the people - to which the rights of property must give way - had been trenched upon. Whatever else failed, principle would prevail, and for its successful assertion he advocated Unionism. Let the men of Dorset assert their manhood and not remain mere machines; let them stick together. Colonel Denison, from the Canadian Government, said he had come over to finally conclude arrangements with the Labourers' Union. He had accompanied Mr. Arch over Ontario, and he testified that the land had been "spied" in a most business-like manner. The speaker indignantly denied that Mr. Arch, as alleged in a county newspaper, had been sent from Canada with his colours in the dust, and that it was his object to entice the labourers to their graves. . . .

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 18: Mr M.R.H. Jenkins was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at The Hague.

Mrs Jenkins had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Mr Horace R. Monday, Jr was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for The Gambia in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr O.G. Sallah (Counsellor), Mr V.S. Ndiaye (First Secretary), Mr M.B. Fye (Attaché, Tourism), Mr M.Y. Ceesay (Finance Attaché), Mr S.L. Kinte (Protocol /Welfare Officer) and Mr O.C. Jallow (Attaché).

Mrs Monday had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Mr Gian Nath and Mrs Nath were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Mauritius in London.

The Queen held a Council at 12.40pm.

There were present: The Right Hon John Wakeham, MP (Lord Privy Seal acting for the Lord President), the Lord Cameron of Lochbroom (Lord Advocate), the Right Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, MP (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), the Right Hon Kenneth Baker, MP (Secretary of State for Education) and the Right Hon David Waddington, MP (Parliamentary Secretary, Treasury).

Mr Geoffrey de Deney was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon John Wakeham, MP had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

Sir Peter Miles had the honour of being received by The Queen and took leave upon his retirement as Keeper of the Privy Purse and Treasurer to The Queen.

The Queen was represented by Admiral Sir John Woodward (Flag Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty) at the Memorial Service for Admiral Sir William Davis (formerly First and Principal Naval Aide-de-Camp to The Queen) which was held in Gloucester Cathedral this afternoon.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Admiral Sir Anthony Morton.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 18: The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr Humphrey Mews, arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt in an airraft of The Queen's Flight this morning from Belgium.

His Royal Highness this morning at Kensington Palace received the Right Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe, MP (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs).

The Prince of Wales received Sir Ranulph Fiennes and members of the Polar Unsupported Expedition at Kensington Palace.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, was entertained at luncheon by the Officers of the 22nd Cheshire Regiment in the Officers' Mess, St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, The Prince of Wales Royal Parks Tree Appeal, this afternoon launched the Appeal at a tree planting ceremony in Hyde Park.

Major Christopher Lavender was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, Vice President, Lepra (British Leprosy Relief Association), today received Mr Francis Harris on relinquishing the appointment as Director and Mr Neil Winship on assuming the appointment.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE, RICHMOND PARK.
December 18: Princess Alexandra was present this evening at a Carol Concert given by the City of London Choir and City of London Boys' Special Choir, in aid of the Mental Health Foundation of which Her Royal Highness is Patron, at Guildhall.

Miss Mona Mitchell was in attendance.

Birthdays

TODAY: Sir Antony Buck, QC, MP, 59; Lord Dulverton, 72; Dame Catherine Hall, former general secretary, Royal College of Nursing, 65; Brigadier L.J. Harris, cartographer, 77; Mr Gordon Jackson, actor, 64; Sir William Murrie, civil servant, 84; the Marquess of Queensbury, 58; Count Edward Raczynski, former president, Polish government-in-exile, 96; the Right Rev Dr G.E. Reindorp, former Bishop of Salisbury, 76; Sir David Rowe-Ham, former Lord Mayor of London, 52.

TOMORROW: Miss Jenny Agutter, actress, 35; Mr J.M. Beaumont, Seigneur of Sark, 60; Mr Paul Brickhill, author, 71; Sir George Coldstream, QC, 80; Mr Charles Denton, television and film producer, 50; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, 61; Miss Rachel Trickett, principal, St Hugh's College, Oxford, 64; Sir Dick White, diplomat, 81; Mr John Whitney, director-general, IBA, 57.



Canon Jim Richardson

Appointments

Mr Peter St Quinton to be collector of customs and excise for the Northampton collection. He succeeds **Mr Gordon Town**, who is to retire.

Mr Maurice Saatchi to be trustee of the Victoria and Albert Museum in succession to **Mr Andrew Knight** who has resigned.

Canon Jim Richardson, Vicar of Leeds and chairman of the Racial Harassment Commission established by Leeds Community Relations Council, to be executive director of the Council of Christians and Jews.

Today's royal engagement

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the National Children's Orchestra, will attend a rehearsal by the orchestra at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, NW1, at 4.00.

Leslie M'Caw

Project backed by the power of love

There can be no doubt during this Advent season that whatever of interest may be observed from an escalator stairway in any emporium, or within the crowded windows of many small-town shops, has little to do with the Beginning at Bethlehem.

After all, the onset of parturition in conditions of considerable awkwardness is not unknown in the modern world. The shocking news in this case was the emergence into rural life of "that holy Thing" (Luke 1, 35) who was the visible and audible evidence that the eternal Word had been made flesh so as to dwell among us.

The oddity of that elemental experience for two persons lay in the identity of the babe. Appearances were all too deceptive; even Mary had no idea that her firstborn son would prove to be "the firstborn of all creation" and the "first to be born from the dead" (Col 1, 15 and 18).

In spite of our extensive ignorance of what that infant, when grown, would do and be for all of us, the quickening of joy and generosity in the hearts and implied in the packages of hurrying shoppers is not wholly alien to the occasion.

Our motives for giving may be mixed, their expression faulty and the element of adoration all too feebly present, and misdirected. However, our indifference has been offset, though not excused, by that timeless choral festival which burst upon the hillside above Bethlehem.

Heaven is to be cautiously noted for its unaccompanied voices both within and without; mankind has persistently neglected the insistent theme of infinite Glory.

The notion that the Most High God, Maker of the immensities of heaven as well as of planet Earth, should require the nursing care of the astonished Mary is so preposterous as to afford ample acreage for the rampant growth of our unbelief.

The Child, when grown up, declared that God is Love, whereupon we have pursued a hundred deviant tangled trackways of thought only to reach uncertain meanings about Him.

"In the beginning" it was the intense bond of Love within the Trinity which contemplated the creation of matter-in-space-and-time, intending slowly to form creatures of substance as well as spirit "in the image and likeness of Themselves". Thereby infinite Joy could be shared by the mutual interchanges of Love.

Those creatures, unlike the multitudes of others, would need to be compatible in body and person with the spiritual Entity of Him who ever is "the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect expression of His nature" (Heb 1,3).

This divine purpose of bringing about effective communion between Maker and creature would entail the loan of a modicum of freedom — because Love does not respond to compulsion.

However, to possess even a fragment of freedom implies the possibility of alteration, not in the will of God but in mankind's own assessment of it; and that could swiftly lead to a rift in their relationship with Him.

Human weakness was known to God before it became evident in action: the risk implicit in this remarkable project of mankind as children of God, which would inevitably lead to their disputing the very sovereignty of Deity (and we do), was mysteriously accepted.

Love wisely undertook not to prevent but to overcome. Grace and Goodness would triumph over man's disastrous evil by means of that epitome of our flesh and blood which, after It had been born of Mary and nurtured in Nazareth, reached full maturity and paradoxical death at the time of Pontius Pilate in Judea.

Jesus' humanity antedates the Annunciation. The acts of the Spirit of God are not restricted to the sequences of time, even though the Birth had a date and a measurable place (note John 12 41 and 8, 56-59).

Biologically His flesh was indeed akin to our own as well as to His siblings but in the dimension of His Person, it was congruent with Deity.

Jesus had a relationship with His Father which we neither possess not comprehend. In resolute obedience He lived among an alienated people but within the limits He had chosen of His Father's Will.

We do not do so, and are normally content in our reluctance to inquire. And as the Babe nuzzled Mary's breast, her deep contentment did not extend to perceiving who the Child would prove to be.

In Jesus we are to believe that we have the image of God as complete as is feasible in the category of Man. He is actually the Primal Man because all men and women derive from Him.

However each of us is afflicted with an incapability of (and usually with a lack of desire for) using the body as a vehicle for expressing the presence of God. This is our sin and shame. Jesus was acclaimed by God as "the One in whom I constantly find delight".

Nevertheless Jesus identified Himself with everyone of us through His Incarnation, realizing that eventually it meant experiencing the utmost of divine anguish in submitting to death, which tried His intense trust in His Father's Love far beyond any human comprehension.

Yet in the fullness and joyfulness of resurrection Life, which He now imparts to any person who humbly accepts His Spirit (as Mary did), our destiny is changed. He has opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all who demonstrate their trust in Him.

This coincidence of God's Grace and our personal response opens before us a vastly greater life and promise than our emergence into this present world from any maternal womb. We are reborn from the penury of Bethlehem's administrative confusion into the liberty and opportunity of fellowship with Himself — "hid with Christ in God" (Col 3, 3).

That is Christ's stupendous gift through the Church to the World, and the Scriptures constitute the users' handbook.

The Rev Leslie M'Caw is a retired Baptist minister

School announcements

Scaitcliffe School
The Board of Scaitcliffe School announce the appointment of Mr Nicholas Stafford as headmaster with effect from September 1988. Mr Richard Vickers will become principal, and Mr Stuart Marriott deputy headmaster.

Marlborough House School, Hawkhurst
The Governors of Marlborough House School, Hawkhurst, have appointed Mr David Lees-Jones, at present a Housemaster at Epsom College, to succeed Mr Ian Ross as headmaster on his retirement in April 1988.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Pither and Miss F. Young
The engagement is announced between Steven, eldest son of Mr John Pither, of Loudwater, Hertfordshire, and the Hon Mrs Pauline Pither, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, and Fiona, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Young, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire.

Mr G.E.C. Atwell and Dr S.A. Roberts
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs F.A. Atwell, of Ealing, London, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R.D. Roberts, of Ealing.

Mr N.J.A. Benda and Miss K. Pawlowska
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Major and Mrs Anthony Benda, of Crondall, Hampshire, and Katarzyna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Janusz Pawlowscy, of Lodz, Poland.

Dr M.A.S Chapman and Miss S.C. Weaver
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr R. Chapman and the late Mrs H. Chapman, of Beckenham, Kent, and Susan, eldest daughter of the Rev B.J. and Mrs Weaver, of Nailsea, Avon.

Mr C. Ford and Miss S.M. Fidler
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs F. Ford, of Bispham, Lancashire, and Suzanne Mary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Fidler, of South Moreton, Oxfordshire.

Mr C. Hobbs and Miss S.A. Stein
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Colonel and Mrs B.R. Hobbs, of Warminster, Wiltshire, and Sonia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.C. Stein, of Edinburgh.

Mr K.J. Isaac and Miss J.E. Harris
The engagement is announced between Keith, elder son of Colonel and Mrs C.J. Isaac, of Bromley, Kent, and Jane daughter of Colonel and Mrs R.N. Harris, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr R.M.C. Jacobsen and Miss E.A. Rose
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr A.A. and Dr C.M. Jacobsen, of Bristol, and Elaine, elder daughter of Commander and Mrs John Rose, of Malcolm Road, Wimbledon.

Mr P.J. Millard and Miss L.J. Barry
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mr and Mrs G. Millard, of Little Aston, Sutton Coldfield, and Lisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H. Barry, of Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath.

Mr H.G. Millington and Miss S.M. Fenton
The engagement is announced between Hugh George, youngest son of the late Rev Kenneth Millington and of Mrs Marion Millington, of Oswestry, Shropshire, and Suzanne Margaret, only daughter of Mr John Fenton, of Cleckheaton, and of Mrs Juanita Fenton, of Ilkley, West Yorkshire.

Mr R.H.M. Raison and Signorina L. Cocco
The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Raison, of Heathcroft, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, and Luisella, only daughter of Colonello and Signora Pietro Cocco, of Vercelli, Italy.

Mr S.G. Saunders and Miss A.J. Norton
The engagement is announced between Stuart, only son of Mr and Mrs D.N. Saunders, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Norton, of East Lambrook, Somerset.

Marriages

Mr D.R. Bartlett and Miss G. Seetaram
The marriage took place in London on September 2, 1987, of Mr David Richard Bartlett, eldest son of the late Mr R.M. Bartlett and of Mrs M.E. Bartlett, of Home Farm, Hawkley Hurst, Liss, Hampshire, and Miss Gitanjoli (Gita) Seetaram, only daughter of Dr and Mrs H. Seetaram, of 68 Eastern Main Road, Tuna Puna, Trinidad.

A reception will be held in Trinidad on January 2, 1988.

Mr H. Harrison-Allen and Miss A. Ommanney
A service of blessing was held on Friday, December 11, 1987, at Chelsea Old Church, after the marriage of Mr Hugh Harrison-Allen and Miss Amanda Ommanney.

Memorial service

Admiral Sir William Davis
The Queen was represented by Admiral Sir John Woodward and the Duke of Edinburgh by Admiral Sir Anthony Morton at service of thanksgiving for the life of Admiral Sir William Wellclose Davis held yesterday in Gloucester Cathedral. The Dean of Gloucester officiated, assisted by Canon David Welander, vice-dean. Vice-Admiral J.S.C. Salter read the lesson and the Bishop of Gloucester gave an address. The Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire and Mrs Gibbs and Admiral Sir Charles Madden, also representing the Order of the Bath, were among those present.

Miss D.L. Sayers
A memorial service was held on December 17, in the Chapel of St Anne's House, Soho, to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Miss Dorothy L. Sayers. Prebendary Gerard Irvine officiated and Mr Patrick McLaughlin gave an address. Members of the Dorothy L. Sayers Society attended.

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: William Edward Parry, Arctic explorer, Bath, 1790; Sir Ralph Richardson, Cheltenham, 1902.

DEATHS: Emily Brontë, Haworth, Yorkshire, 1848; Joseph Mallord William Turner, London, 1851.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: John Wilson Croker, politician and writer, Galway, 1805; Sir Robert Menzies, prime minister of Australia 1939-41, 1949-66, Jeparit, Victoria, 1894.

DEATHS: John Steinbeck, novelist, New York, 1968.

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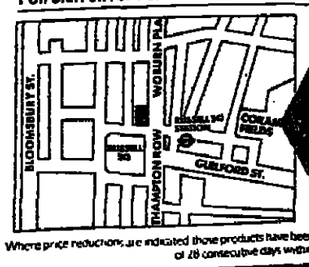
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OBITUARY

MARGUERITE YOURCENAR

France's first woman Academician



Marguerite Yourcenar, the French historical novelist who was the first woman to be elected to the *Académie Française*, died yesterday in America, where for many years she had made her home in a tiny coastal resort on Mount Desert Island, Maine. She was 84.

Her best-known book was *Mémoires d'Hadrien*, the fictionalized memoirs of the Emperor Hadrian.

Her pen name was a near-anagram of the name with which she was born: Crayencour. She was born in Brussels on June 8, 1903, her mother a Belgian, her father a patrician French man of letters. It was he who brought her up, after her mother died when she was an infant.

He read the French classics to her and taught her Latin and Greek. He privately published her girlhood poems, and provided not only a literary background but specific ideas for her to work on in her own writing. Yourcenar claimed that the characters and stories of her books were all in her head by the time she was twenty.

The theme of the first of her novels to get into print, in 1929, was not historical. But *Alexis, ou le traité de vain combat* was based on a true incident, and created something of a sensation by its treatment of homosexuality at a time when the reading public was only just beginning to get used to Proust. Her sexual themes were in advance of her time. But it was feelings and relationships with which she was concerned, not physical sex.

The originality of her talent showed itself in other novels, such as *Le mort conduit l'attelage*, in 1934; a volume of short stories, *Nouvelles Orientales*; and a collection of prose poems, *Feux*, in 1936.

Her shrewd political interest was demonstrated in 1934 when she wrote one of the earliest attacks on the dictators in *A Coin in Nine Hands*, an intricately-structured novel describing an assassination attempt on Mussolini.

With *Mémoires d'Hadrien*, in 1951, which won her several prizes, she became known to the wider reading public. Her talent for historical novels also showed itself in 1968 in *L'Oeuvre en noir*, a scholarly reconstitution of the life of a sixteenth-century alchemist, and in *The Abyss*, set in the Renaissance.

Yourcenar wrote only in French. But she was translated into more than twenty languages, and latterly her books sold widely. Her move to the United States, in 1947, did not prevent her from continuing to be one of the best-known writers in France, and she also enjoyed considerable success in the theatre with plays on the myths of Electra and of Alcestis.

Just as one of her achievements was to introduce readers of the modern world to classic tales, another was to interpret English and American culture to her fellow-countrymen. She translated Virginia Woolf's *The Waves* and Henry James's *What Maisie Knew*. In *Fleuve Profond, sombre rivière* (1964) she adapted Negro spirituals into French.

She was also an essayist. *Le Temps, ce grand sculpteur* (1983) revealed not only a characteristically wide-ranging knowledge of topics as varied as the Venerable Bede and the literature of Japan, but also a moving concern for the welfare of animals. Ecology and conservation were among her passions. Feminism, in the fashionable sense, did not attract her.

Her election to the *Académie*, after that élite body had survived three-and-a-half-centuries without any women members, was not achieved without heated debate. Since by that time she had taken American citizenship, there had to be a special dispensation from the President of the Republic.

But in 1981, in a cape designed for her by Yves St-Laurent, and wearing not the traditional sword but a pendant bearing the image of Hadrian, she duly appeared before her fellow "immortals" of the Academy, and in her acceptance speech graciously forgave those who had tried to keep her out. The official grounds for electing her were that her classical erudition, combined with a vibrant contemporary spirit, had made her an exception in the modern age.

Her last work to be translated into English, *Two Lives and a Dream*, was published this year.

She was unmarried.

CARDINAL BERNARDUS ALFRINK

Cardinal Bernardus Alfrink, who died on December 17, at the age of 87, was Archbishop of Utrecht from 1955 to 1975 and an influential figure in the debates of the Second Vatican Council. Though cautious, he was very kind and open, and never liked to beat about the bush.

He led the Roman Catholic Church in the Netherlands during the period of intense upheaval centred on the Second Vatican Council when the Dutch Church became a by-word for radical change.

He found himself in the difficult position of mediating between the often unreasonable demands of Rome and the wish of most of his Dutch fellow-Catholics for radical reform. Like most Dutch Catholics he had a strong loyalty to the Papacy, but this did not prevent him from resisting Rome when he believed it to be mistaken.

Born on July 5, 1900, at Nijkerk, a predominantly Protestant village, Alfrink lost his mother when a year old and was brought up by a childless uncle and aunt until his father re-married. Seminary studies led to the priesthood and, after further studies in Rome and Jerusalem, to a career as a biblical scholar. In 1951, he was taken from his chair at Nijmegen, where he taught Old Testament exegesis, to be coadjutor archbishop of Utrecht, to which see he fully succeeded in 1955.

By then the transformation of Dutch Catholicism was already under way. A turning point came when the Dutch bishops embarked in 1954 on a policy of exercising episcopal authority through dialogue, rather than simply by demanding obedience. Predictably, anxieties were aroused in Rome. Alfrink had to wait until 1960 to be given the red hat that traditionally went with his see — a longer delay than some thought appropriate.

Tensions increased with the Second Vatican Council. In 1961, the Dutch bishops issued a joint pastoral letter which anticipated much of what the Council was going to say, particularly its stress on the Church as the people of God and its re-discovery of episcopal collegiality. Alfrink was forced to protest furiously when the Holy Office tried to suppress the Italian translation of this document.

At the Council itself he made some influential contributions, particularly on collegiality and on nuclear weapons and disarmament (he was both Dutch and international president of Pax Christi, the Catholic peace movement).

As a Council president, he was involved in a famous incident when Cardinal Ottaviani, head of the Holy Office, over-ran the time limit on speeches and refused to stop talking. Alfrink simply switched Ottaviani's microphone off — a practical Dutch solution which brought applause from the fathers.

In 1965, the Italian Press interpreted the Papal encyclical *Mysterium fidei* as a condemnation of Dutch efforts to work out in modern language what the doctrine of the Real Presence meant. Alfrink protested publicly against the "one-sided, negative and distorted" treatment that Dutch Catholicism was being accorded. What was thought and talked about privately in other countries found its way into print in the Netherlands, he declared.

Rome shuddered further as the Dutch Pastoral Council rejected Papal reaffirmation of the traditional ban on contraception, and called for a relaxation on clerical celibacy. It responded by imposing conservative-minded bishops against the wishes of clergy and people, thereby introducing a new and unwelcome element of discord into the working of the small Dutch bishops' conference.

These and other tensions overshadowed Alfrink's final years in office, until he resigned on reaching retiring age in 1975. After that he had to watch from the sidelines as Rome brought the Church in the Netherlands more and more under its direct control, alienating an increasing number of Dutch Catholics in the process. But he steadfastly refrained from commenting on developments after his retirement.

PROFESSOR IVO LAPENNA

Professor Ivo Lapenna, professor emeritus of Soviet and East European Law at London University, who died at Copenhagen on December 16, was one of the Yugoslav ex-partisans who had to move West after breaking with Tito. He was 78.

Born in 1909, at Split, Lapenna read law at Zagreb University and after the war emerged as one of the bright young lawyers close to the new Yugloslav Government.

He became professor of international law and relations at Zagreb and served as expert adviser during the 1946 Paris Peace Conference. In 1947-8 he was counsel-advocate in the International Court of Justice at The Hague. For a time he was editor of the principal Yugoslav official gazette.

He broke with Tito in 1949 and emigrated to Paris, where, as a research fellow of the National Centre for Scientific Research, he completed work on a major study of Soviet concepts of international law.

In 1955, he joined the outstanding coterie of Russian specialists assembled by the late Leonard Schapiro at the London School of Economics. In 1966, he became a Reader in Soviet Law at the LSE and at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, being elevated to a personal chair in 1973.

Lapenna's major works in English, a comparison of Soviet and Yugoslav legal theory, was a searing critique of Yugoslav and especially Soviet departures from Marxian principles. It formed the theoretical core of a popular undergraduate course which he continued on a part-time basis after his retirement, in 1977.

Lapenna was a pre-eminent figure in the Esperanto movement, a fomer president of the International Association.

His first wife died in 1985. Two years later he married Birthe Zacho, who survives him.

PRINCE ERNST AUGUST OF HANOVER

C. H. writes:

Prince Ernst August of Hanover (obituary, December 12) was a real full-bloodied Hanoverian — brave, generous, loyal, with a great sense of humour, passionate in the defence of what he held to be true, but always ready to listen to the other side of a good argument.

I can recall being branded as a "Prussia-lover" for having been so bold as to suggest that Bismarck's role was not wholly negative. A plea in favour of Napoleon almost brought our friendship to an abrupt end.

The Hanoverian connection with England was something about which he felt very deeply, and which he strove to uphold in countless ways. His British nationality, recovered in the early 1950s, was to him an illustration and a symbol of a Europe united through the weave of royal connections which in the First World War had been so shattered.

He was a committed Christian and an active member of the Lutheran Church.

His memory will live on as an example to all those who believe that friendship between Britain and Germany is a cornerstone of peace in Europe.

Mr Sidney Hebblethwaite, CMG, diplomatist, died on December 16, aged 73.

He held postings at Rome, Lisbon, Athens, Brussels, Stockholm, Rangoon, Washington, and Florence. He was an extremely gifted linguist, which set him apart from many of his colleagues, being fluent in French, German, Portuguese, Greek, and Swedish.

He leaves his widow, Sal, and their two daughters.

MR JOE HAGGAR

Mr Joe Haggar, sen., who enjoyed rags to riches success in "the pants business", died on December 15, aged 94.

Born in Lebanon in 1892, he arrived in the United States while still a teenager and sold clothes. He took a small commission, selling everything at one price — "fast nickels are better than slow dimes."

In 1926, at Dallas, he founded the Haggar Apparel Company, now a huge concern but which began with four workers and two sewing machines.

Haggar, known as "The Chief", is credited with coining the word "slacks" and for pioneering assembly line clothes production and standard sizes for men. He introduced "wash 'n' wear" slacks in 1958, permanent press slacks in 1965, and "double knit" slacks in 1968.

Haggar took an active role in the business until only earlier this year.

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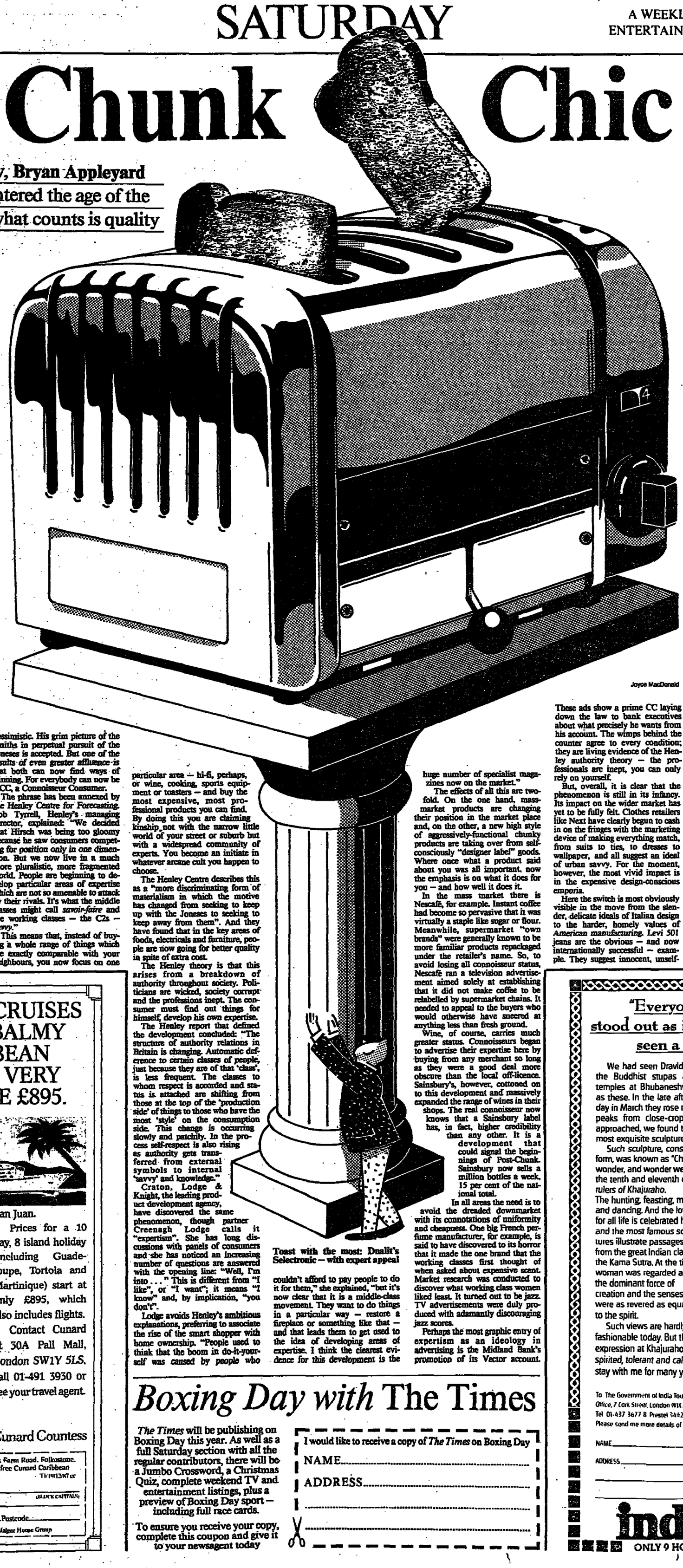
December 19-25, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Chunk Chic

First there was the consumer society. That was followed by style consciousness. Now, Bryan Appleyard reports, we have entered the age of the connoisseur, and what counts is quality



Joyce MacDonald

Dualit Ltd in London's Old Kent Road had been making electric toasters for the catering trade since 1944. It was a nice little business, though none too exciting. The toasters along with other lines like professional-standard toasted sandwich makers, sold steadily through the grey years of post-war reconstruction, through the shining, affluent Sixties and on into the gloomy Seventies.

Then, in the Eighties, somebody in SE15 appeared to experience a rush of blood to the head. The Selectronic Commercial Toaster was clad in gleaming stainless steel. The object was transformed from a dull, white institutional tool into what one French publication called "la Rolls des toasteurs". It took on the chic appearance of a Fifties American diesel truck and Leslie Gort-Barten, the managing director of Dualit, found himself winning design awards in Japan and selling toasters to Harrods, Heals and the Conran Shop.

At £75 for the four-slice version and £95 for the six-slice, the Dualit is about four times as expensive as its competitors from Tefal, Swan or Russell Hobbs. But its makers had unwittingly stumbled upon one of the great commercial truths of the Eighties – in certain key areas of the market price is an irrelevance, what counts is aggressive, unarguable quality. Gort-Barten's family firm had run headlong into the Connoisseur Consumer, The Rise of Expertism or, for the less demanding, Chunk Chic.

This is now seen by some as the third phase of the affluent society. In the first phase, mass production brings a whole new range of consumer desirables within the reach of millions. People are grateful just to have a toaster, a washing machine or a car. In the second phase, style and aspiration take over. Smith has to have a better or smarter car than Jones and table lamps stop being Chianti bottles with a shade on top and became thin, black Italian variations on the theme of the Anglepoise.

This phase filled the academic Fred Hirsch with gloom. In his 1977 book *Social Limits to Growth* he identified the Smiths' eternal desire to keep up with the Joneses. His point was that everybody above a certain level of income could afford, for example, package holidays. What then mattered to the Joneses was finding a better, quieter Spanish beach than the Smiths. The Smiths would then hit back with another beach, and so the game would continue.

Affluence had created a "zero-sum game" in which eternal aspiration achieved a brief moment of triumph followed by a long nightmare of dissatisfaction. The Smiths and the Joneses were locked in an unbreakable but loveless embrace. Hell was other people's beaches.

Happily, recent thinking suggests that Hirsch was being unduly pessimistic. His grim picture of the Smiths in perpetual pursuit of the Joneses is accepted. But one of the *results of even greater affluence* is that both can now find ways of winning. For everybody can now be a CC, a Connoisseur Consumer.

The phrase has been annexed by *the Henley Centre for Forecasting*. Bob Tyrrell, Henley's managing director, explained: "We decided that Hirsch was being too gloomy because he saw consumers competing for position only in one dimension. But we now live in a much more pluralistic, more fragmented world. People are beginning to develop particular areas of expertise which are not so amenable to attack by their rivals. It's what the middle classes might call *savoir-faire* and the working classes – the C2s – *savvy*."

This means that, instead of buying a whole range of things which are exactly comparable with your neighbours, you now focus on one particular area – hi-fi, perhaps, or wine, cooking, sports equipment or toasters – and buy the most expensive, most professional products you can find. By doing this you are claiming kinship not with the narrow little world of your street or suburb but with a widespread community of experts. You become an initiate in whatever arcane cult you happen to choose.

The Henley Centre describes this as a "more discriminating form of materialism in which the motive has changed from seeking to keep up with the Joneses to seeking to keep away from them". And they have found that in the key areas of foods, electricals and furniture, people are now going for better quality in spite of extra cost.

The Henley theory is that this arises from a breakdown of authority throughout society. Politicians are wicked, society corrupt and the professions inept. The consumer must find out things for himself, develop his own expertise.

The Henley report that defined the development concluded: "The structure of authority relations in Britain is changing. Automatic deference to certain classes of people, just because they are of that 'class', is less frequent. The classes to whom respect is accorded and status is attached are shifting from those at the top of the 'production side' of things to those who have the most 'style' on the consumption side. This change is occurring slowly and patchily. In the process self-respect is also rising as authority gets transferred from external symbols to internal 'savvy' and knowledge."

Craton, Lodge & Knight, the leading product development agency, have discovered the same phenomenon, though partner Creenagh Lodge calls it "expertism". She has long discussions with panels of consumers and she has noticed an increasing number of questions are answered with the opening line: "Well, I'm into . . . " This is different from "I like", or "I want"; it means "I know" and, by implication, "you don't".

Lodge avoids Henley's ambitious explanations, preferring to associate the rise of the smart shopper with home ownership. "People used to think that the boom in do-it-yourself was caused by people who couldn't afford to pay people to do it for them," she explained, "but it's now clear that it is a middle-class movement. They want to do things in a particular way – restore a fireplace or something like that – and that leads them to get used to the idea of developing areas of expertise. I think the clearest evidence for this development is the huge number of specialist magazines now on the market."

Toast with the most: Dualit's Selectronic – with expert appeal

The effects of all this are twofold. On the one hand, mass-market products are changing their position in the market place and, on the other, a new high style of aggressively-functional chunky products are taking over from self-consciously "designer label" goods. Where once what a product said about you was all important, now the emphasis is on what it does for you – and how well it does it.

In the mass market there is Nescafé, for example. Instant coffee had become so pervasive that it was virtually a staple like sugar or flour. Meanwhile, supermarket "own brands" were generally known to be more familiar products repackaged under the retailer's name. So, to avoid losing all connoisseur status, Nescafé ran a television advertisement aimed solely at establishing that it did not make coffee to be relabelled by supermarket chains. It needed to appeal to the buyers who would otherwise have sneered at anything less than fresh ground.

Wine, of course, carries much greater status. Connoisseurs began to advertise their expertise here by buying from any merchant so long as they were a good deal more obscure than the local off-licence. Sainsbury's, however, cottoned on to this development and massively expanded the range of wines in their shops. The real connoisseur now knows that a Sainsbury label has, in fact, higher credibility than any other. It is a development that could signal the beginnings of Post-Chunk. Sainsbury now sells a million bottles a week, 15 per cent of the national total.

In all areas the need is to avoid the dreaded downmarket with its connotations of uniformity and cheapness. One big French perfume manufacturer, for example, is said to have discovered to its horror that it made the one brand that the working classes first thought of when asked about expensive scent. Market research was conducted to discover what working class women liked least. It turned out to be jazz. TV advertisements were duly produced with adamantly discouraging jazz scores.

Perhaps the most graphic entry of expertism as an ideology in advertising is the Midland Bank's promotion of its Vector account. These ads show a prime CC laying down the law to bank executives about what precisely he wants from his account. The wimps behind the counter agree to every condition; they are living evidence of the Henley authority theory – the professionals are inept, you can only rely on yourself.

But, overall, it is clear that the phenomenon is still in its infancy. Its impact on the wider market has yet to be fully felt. Clothes retailers like Next have clearly begun to cash in on the fringes with the marketing device of making everything match, from suits to ties, to dresses to wallpaper, and all suggest an ideal of urban savvy. For the moment, however, the most vivid impact is in the expensive design-conscious emporia.

Here the switch is most obviously visible in the move from the slender, delicate ideals of Italian design to the harder, homely values of *American manufacturing*. Levi 501 jeans are the obvious – and now internationally successful – example. They suggest innocent, unself-conscious American quality. They are by implication anti-design and anti-style.

They are now being followed by American police torches, fridges and soda fountain catering equipment, all of which advertise an imperviousness to mere fashion. And, above all, there are shoes. Expertists and CCs are great foot fetishists, and from running shoes to winter boots that will see your grandchildren out, there is a whole distinct ideology of lower-limb defensive systems.

None of this is cheap, of course, but then who counts the pennies when there's a chance of doing really serious damage to the Joneses?

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SAVOIR FARE

These are some of the high-price, high-credibility products the high-savvy consumer will be wanting this *Christmas*:

SHOES
Nike running shoes started this connoisseur obsession by charging £35 and upwards *per pair. But the market has* moved on and CCs will be looking at New Balance 1300s at £100 a pair. They look as though you are wearing a battleship on each foot. Elsewhere, Bass Weejuns have long symbolized the great American adoration of the well-clad foot. But Timberland loafers and boots *at £99 and £145 have* taken the style to its extreme.

TORCHES
Hardly an essential chic accessory until the appearance of Magi-Lites. These are heavy black aluminium tubes made in California for police use. Over here, they sell to clued-up urban cruisers at up to £50. As torches, they are *the best, and are equally* handy for re-arranging the features of any intruder.

ELECTRICALS
The Dualit toaster, of course, *though CCs could* develop an interest in a rival catering product – the Rowlett Regent – an equally expensive squared-off monster. Meanwhile, huge American fridges with drinks chillers, ice crushers, double doors, and enough interior space to hold a cocktail party are now more or *less de rigueur. The Amana* Free-O'-Frost SD15-25 comes in at £2,195.

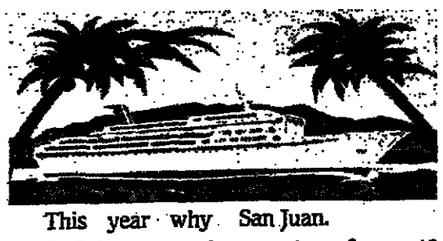
PENS
Ball points are for the *Formica crowd. Fountain pens* are the implement of the Nineties, the stubbier the better. At the affordable end, Mont Blanc are the market leaders, along with Parker, but the German Pelikan Toledo, covered in beaten gold, at £385 should convince even the least aware that some kind of gesture is being made here.

PEPPER GRINDERS
It is a well-known fact that mills for grinding black pepper corns do not work. CCs know better. The steel mill from French car maker Peugeot costs between £12 and £25 and will go on grinding until white pepper *comes back into style.*

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"Everyone's eyes stood out as if they'd never seen a temple."

We had seen Dravidian temples in the south, the Buddhist stupas at Sanchi, and Lingaraj temples at Bhubaneshwar, but never any such as these. In the late afternoon sun of a glorious day in March they rose majestically like mountain peaks from close-cropped lawns. Yet, as we approached, we found them alive with detail, the most exquisite sculpture.

*Such sculpture, considered India's highest art-*form, was known as "Chitra." It is also the word for wonder, and wonder we did. At the glorious era of the tenth and eleventh century *rulers of Khajuraho.*



The hunting, feasting, music and dancing. And the loving, for all life is celebrated here and the most famous sculptures illustrate passages from the great Indian classic, the Kama Sutra. At the time, woman was regarded as the dominant force of creation and the senses were as revered as equal to the spirit.

Such views are hardly fashionable today. But their expression at Khajuraho, gentle, *spirited, tolerant and calm, would* stay with me for many years.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1

Geneva – clean enough to eat

Michael Watkins explores the hidden joys of an ancient lakeside city which is obsessed with finger-wagging decorum and neutrality

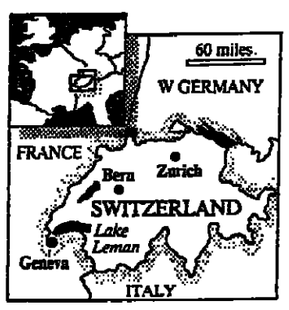
Why is it that, when I'm in Switzerland, I can safely leave my teddy bear at home? I'll tell you why. Because everything works in Switzerland. I don't need teddy because nothing nasty happens. Cleanliness being next to Calvinism, the Swiss are so clean you could eat off them. Two cheers for good old Helvetia.

Nowhere epitomizes this flavour of sanctity better than Geneva: the air is dreamy with the stuff. And such a dream: peace. The International Red Cross was founded there; so too the Geneva Convention; the defunct League of Nations; even the World Intellectual Property Organization. But why Geneva and not, say, Huddersfield, with roughly the same population? Good question. What miracle of legerdemain turned this insignificant lakeside town into the most international of cities?

To answer this we must go back to Europe's 14th-century crises; to a landscape assaulted by war, famine, and epidemics of plague, the first onslaughts of which were the most formidable. Western Europe's population was halved in 60 years. Although Geneva suffered proportionate fatalities, it escaped the ensuing economic decline by adopting an open-door policy. Strategically placed at Europe's crossroads, Geneva became the perfect marketplace, promoting four great fairs each year.

As well as trade, so intense was its banking activity that the most thrusting of users, the Medicis of Florence, opened their branch office, so to speak, in 1424.

Establishing a reputation for mercantile know-how, it seemed a natural progression that Geneva should also be acknowledged as Europe's safe-house – non-aligned and neutral. So sensitive were the Genevese to the nuances of fiscal tempo that it became a skill as delicate as the craft of clock-making.




Formal splendour: a fine ornate fountain in the Parc des Eaux-Vives

Then there is this business of Mr Calvin, avowedly pushing up the edelweiss since 1564, in reality alive and well, still wielding a starchy influence over Geneva. It is the most reproving, finger-wagging place I know, obsessed with decorum, its own sense of worthiness, physical order. The first sweet words an infant learns are *ne touchez pas*. The first words a dog learns are an entreaty not to pooh on the pavement: *ne salis pas le trottoir*.

Genevese are also preoccupied with longevity; for if Calvin defies the laws of mortality, his disciples are similarly persuaded. For something like 30 years it has been mandatory for every new dwelling to incorporate its own nuclear shelter, in connection with which each family is given a list of provisions to stock for the dreaded day: *légumineuses (lentilles, pois, haricots blancs), knöpfl, mais* . . . though, speaking for myself, as an alternative to a relentless diet of *lentils and haricot beans*, I think I'd venture out to embrace the cloud.

Other clouds, smoke clouds from the public burning of his books, drove Rousseau from Geneva. Some found the atmosphere more congenial – Voltaire, Madame de Staël, Byron, Dostoevsky, Hugo, among them. So, apparently, there were weak links in the chains of constraint; and it was this wondrous frailty that I set out to discover.

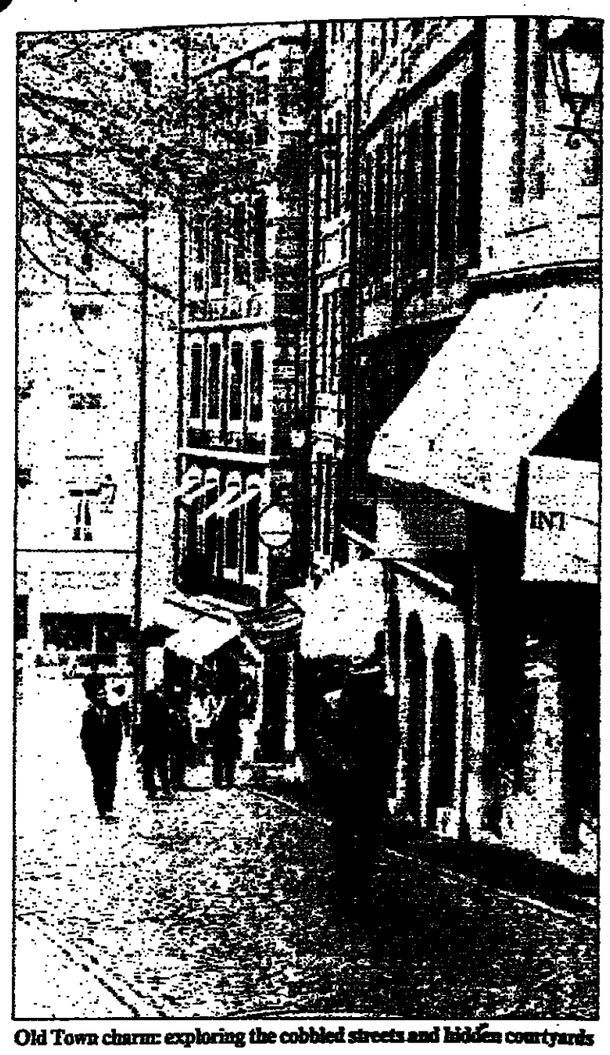
Well, it wasn't anywhere along the Quai Wilson or the Quai du Mont-Blanc, stiffly formal with hotels such as the Beau Rivage, a punishing wind whipping off the lake. I watched the *mink coats go* by, trailing dogs the size of centipedes.

Crossing the Pont Mont-Blanc, I climbed towards the Museum of Art and History, finding the pictures posed and stylized; Lancret, Tenier, Watteau. Yes, even Watteau. I went to look at Calvin's chair in the cathedral of St Pierre; it was entirely as I expected: uncomfortable.

I forgot Geneva's brave new city; it was as boring as science fiction or philately. Instead, I concentrated on the Old Town, high above Lake Leman, patrician, with every now and then a hidden courtyard inviting trespass. Grand Rue was lumpily cobbled and there, at number 40, Rousseau lived before he did a bunk. Opposite, at 39, *livres anciens* were sold, including a lovely-looking copy of *Analyse de Beauté!* Passing Christie's, I came to the Place de la Madeleine, where a fountain dribbled languorously and where, from an open book-stall, I could have bought *Mein Kampf, Le Sexe de Votre Enfant, David Copperfield, Mon Amie Flicka* and *Le Fils de Flicka* as a job-lot for peanuts.

I felt so bucked I bought a Swiss Army penknife instead. In its versatile Helvetian way, it adapts itself to 39 functions, some useful, some less so, not one applicable to the jobs I do. But just having such *a knife is a comfort. It hung* reassuringly in my coat as, returning to St Pierre, I was determined to meet something splendid, something spontaneous, unCalvinistic. I did, too. There, at each end of the choir stalls, stood a carved dragon, irrelevant and irreverent, cheeky as a Disney duck. Here be dragons, I thought, trying to fit Geneva into a tastier mould than that of *suet-pudding*.

Later I experienced a brief reprieve, a passing flash of hope. I had heard mention of a red light district behind the Hilton Hotel which, in the interest of learning, I explored – finding it more a shade of blush-rose than scarlet. Hungry, I tacked myself on to a well-trained queue at a sandwich counter. In front of me was a teenager on rollerskates who, gathering his order of moist Gruyère flan, allowed it to slip through his fingers. Splat! Defying 400 years of Calvinistic morality, he uttered one word: *Merde!* I just, only just, refrained from hugging him.


Old Town charm: exploring the cobbled streets and hidden courtyards

TRAVEL NOTES

I flew British Airways from London Heathrow to Geneva in one hour. Business class £308 return, super Apex £89. Reservations 01-897 4000. In Geneva I stayed at the Noga Hilton, where a double room cost £164 a night; with a lake view, £197. Continental breakfast was £7. Good bistro-type restaurant used by Genevese is Des Voyageurs, Avenue de la Gare des Eaux-Vives. As a rough guide, I found prices in general approximately 10 to 15 per cent higher than in London. Taxis are notoriously the most expensive on earth. Further information from Swiss National Tourist Office, Swiss Centre, New Coventry Street, London W1V 8EE (01-734 1921).

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TRAVEL 2

Video tapes can help to iron out the skiing kinks, as **Helen Copeland** discovered

How to make a mogul movie

Like most intermediate skiers, I have been to ski school, and I have read the Harry Evans book. I believed I was mildly accomplished, facing fearlessly down the mountain and carving every turn. Well, I'm not and I don't.

There is a video camera which allows us to see ourselves through others' eyes and, in my case, reveals arms and shoulders thrashing round and a defensive, slope-hugging stance that positively shrieks fear of the fall line.

On the other side of the viewfinder was Sarah Ferguson, the former British freestyle champion and coach, who now teaches skiing. Her method is designed to remove the mental obstacles to progress, freeing you to tackle the the physical ones on the piste.

This "mind over matter" approach to skiing has been decried by sceptics who regard it as the equivalent of skiing downhill on a psychiatrist's couch; they probably believe that skiing is all about muscle-power, aggression, speed and stamina.

My performance curve had become a straight line, so I

'The rest of us were prepared to try anything once if it would help us to improve'

joined Ferguson's Complete Course in Balance in Champéry. This small Swiss resort, part of the huge Portes du Soleil area, holds few terrors. It consists mainly of large, motorway-style pistes and, as such, is a reassuring place in which to learn.

I had 11 companions on the course. We differed in age, sex, background and what we wanted from the week: some were determined to conquer a fear of anything steeper than a gentle slope, others had problems skiing powder, the rest of us were prepared to try anything once if it would help us to improve.

As Ferguson introduced a series of games for us to play, there were times when a sense of the ridiculous was all we had in common – pretending to be a waitress skiing with a tray of martinis, for example, or skiing on one leg like Long John Silver. We good-naturedly swooped down slopes with arms outstretched like great multi-coloured birds, played at being motor-cars, at skiing over egg shells.

What must have looked silly to others seemed distinctly odd to us. But such games helped us all to relearn the basics of the sport, and progress was swift.

The classes are small, and there is a supportive, non-competitive atmosphere. No one was required to perform for the rest of the class, nor ski along behind the instructor trying to turn where she did. We were encouraged to think positively about what we were doing. "I can't" means "I won't" in Ferguson's book. Anyone attending the course should keep an open mind.

My breakthrough came when Ferguson was advising on the problems of skiing moguls. Her philosophy was not to try to ski them, but just to let the skis run. Coming down an awkward, bumpy little slope, I took a deep breath and did just that. To my amazement, my legs, loose and relaxed, performed eight swift and accurate changes of *direction*.

It is not all mental games, however. Stretching and strengthening exercises and a daily warm-up session ensured we were physically at our best. Our equipment was assessed and the video was used to bring us face to face with reality. But the psychological aspect is by far the most important.

Ferguson taught herself to ski powder one summer by watching someone do it on film. After repeatedly watching a video of her skiing to Vivaldi, we were given personal stereos playing the same music. By concentrating on visualizing her skiing, all of us felt we could match her graceful and elegant style, even if only for a few turns.

The learning did not stop when the lifts closed. Back at the hotel our kinks were eased out by Annie Sarson, a yoga teacher. Then it was time for a discussion session, where the highs and lows of the day were analysed, and where the theories could be explored at greater length.

'Ferguson taught herself to ski powder by watching someone do it on film'

There is a lot packed into a week and, to be honest, there are times when you could kill for just five minutes on your own. But the hectic schedule can be enormous fun. Terrific team spirit develops, friendships are forged and, best of all, everyone skied far better at the end of the week. For some the transformation was startling, others merely improved *in a specific aspect. But every*one came away with a more balanced approach, convinced that skiing is just as much about sensitivity as brute strength, more to do with suppleness than stamina.

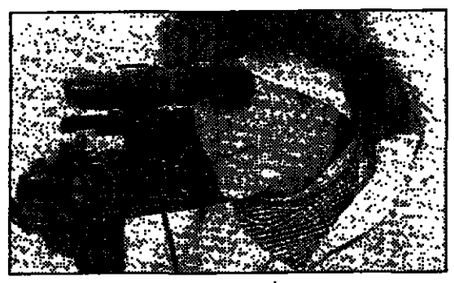
Mark Shapiro



Snow style: Sarah Ferguson (above) makes use of the camera to film her pupils

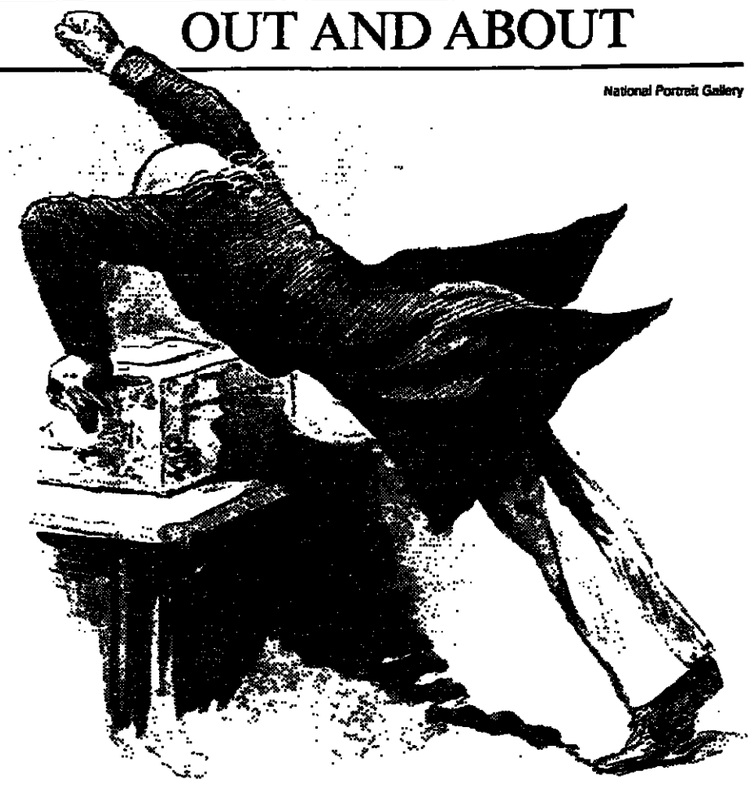
TRAVEL NOTES

There will be five courses in 1988: two chalet parties in Verbier on January 30 and February 6, and three in Champéry, based on half-board hotel accommodation, on March 5, 12 and 19. The course tuition fee is £185. Details from 4 Coombe Court, Langton Maltravers, Swanage, Dorset BH19 4DP; or for Champéry only, from Made to Measure Travel, Conwell House, 43 East Street, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1HX (0243 533333).



OUT AND ABOUT

National Portrait Gallery



Oratory preserved: Gladstone, according to Furniss who caught him (above) at the Despatch Box, spoke so eloquently that the flower in his buttonhole would wilt

Sound of science

Noises from the past are stored for the future, reports **Nigel Andrew**

I have just been listening to Sir Henry Irving. Very strange he sounded too, like a prototype of one of Peter Sellers's fruitier voices. Several other eminent Victorians got themselves on to wax cylinders in the 1880s. Distorted and indistinct, they still speak to us across 100 years, and you can hear them for yourself, thanks to the National Sound Archive.

This extraordinary institution, housed in a splendid 1870s "Queen Anne" mansion on Exhibition Road, is to recorded sound roughly what the National Gallery is to paintings, except that it is far more comprehensive. Its collections run to some quarter of a million discs and 45,000 hours of tape, and it is growing all the time. Three thousand or so discs come in every month, there are gifts *and deposits, and the archive* has its own recording programme.

They say you could get through the entire collection by giving up the next half-century to continuous listening. But of course by the time you had finished, you would have to start all over again. The archive is even building up a collection of pop videos. Well, someone has to do it.

The collection covers everything from wax cylinders to compact discs, and the old, deteriorating material is continually being transcribed and restored. The improvement can be dramatic, as I heard in a "before" and "after" version of Florrie Ford's "What the? Where the? Why the?", recorded in 1919. But the archive is at present on the brink of a technological revolution, as it begins work with the Computer Enhanced Digital Audio Restoration system. The results, I am assured, will be little short of miraculous.

Even more striking than the quantity of material held by the archive is its enormous range. The spoken voice recordings go back to Florence Nightingale, Tennyson, Gladstone and Browning. In fact the one great omission is Queen Victoria: it is thought she did have her voice recorded, but sent the cylinder as a greeting to the Emperor of Abysinnia, with instructions that he destroy it as soon as he'd heard it. It seems he obeyed.

The archive has, however, a recording of Queen Victoria's funeral, which turned up recently as a donation. Until then no one knew such a recording had been made.



Poet's voice: Robert Browning

The music collections are vast, covering not just classical, popular and jazz, but traditional music from all over the world. There is a vintage recording of Aboriginal chants collected in the 1890s by Sir James Frazer, when he was writing *The Golden Bough*. Later recordings range from African classi*cal music to the ullulations of* now-vanished Amazonian tribes.

There is recorded literature – including James Joyce reading from *Ulysses* in 1924 – actuality and documentary recordings galore, and a huge library of wildlife and other sounds. In fact anything that makes a recordable noise is virtually certain to be in the archive.

This astonishing collection is used extensively by musicians of all kinds, perhaps seeking out obscure recordings or comparing different versions of a piece, or simply looking for new sounds. Actors and actresses use it to get accents right, or to listen to classic performances.

Others might have one-off requests. However bizarre they are, the archive will nearly always be able to help. The Japanese national anthem played by a geisha girl brass band? No problem (I heard this one myself – very odd). The song of the Gurgling Oropendola? Right away. Beatrice Harrison playing her cello to the nightingales? But of course. You can even have a snatch of Brahms playing Brahms, recorded in 1889.

There is really no end to the sounds on offer here, and they are freely available to anyone. But if there is a particular thing you want to hear, do telephone first and make an appointment: it might take a little time. Nothing will surprise them, though – at the National Sound Archive they have heard it all before.

The National Sound Archive, 29 Exhibition Road, London SW7 2AS (01-589 660-3/4), is open Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm (to 9pm Thursday).

WHAT'S ON AT THE RESORTS

Summer in skiing areas is a frantic rush to prepare for the winter. Apartment buildings are flung up, blocking your favourite view, and the web of lifts is improved and extended, making piste maps more confusing than ever.

In 1987, more than £85 million was spent in France on new lift facilities, some £10 million more than the previous year. Among the numerous additions is a new cable car linking Morzine to Avoriaz, and Val d'Isère's funicular "Funival", from la Daille to Bellevarde, should soon be ready to carry 3,000 people an hour.

An additional workload was imposed on French lift companies this year: following some accidents last winter in which several people died, the Government demanded that every lift in France, other than drag lifts, be tested for safety. Of the 795 checked, at a cost of more than £2 million, a quarter were found to be faulty. All except 15 lifts have now been repaired and will be operating safely this winter. Most tickets will cost a bit *more as a result, but another* franc or two per ticket for improved safety is well worth paying.

FRANCE

LES ARCS: For music lovers, there will be a musical Christmas with guest soloists, from today until Boxing Day. Also "Wine Days", Tuesday-Christmas Day.

AVORIAZ: Walt Disney Days – daily films-shows for children, and on Christmas Day, Father Christmas and clowns in a street parade. Monday-Christmas Day.

COURCHEVEL: Bell-ringers, Father Christmas, clowns and a classical music concert. Christmas Day.

FLAINE: Ladies' FIS slalom on Monday. On Christmas Eve, a torchlight descent.

AUSTRIA

AYRHOFEN: Ski jumping. Boxing Day.

SOLL: Santa visits the ski kindergarten; traditional Christmas horn playing. Christmas Eve.

SWITZERLAND

ST MORITZ: International ski jumping competition (Europa Cup). Boxing Day.

Peter Hankey

Cool, crisp, uneven

SKI REPORT

The pre-Christmas picture is a case of some good news and some bad news. As has been widely publicized, the good news is that the early snowfall in the Alps has been substantial. So, for the first time in a number of years, most resorts have a good base before the season starts. This means that whatever the weather the pistes can absorb a reasonable amount of wear and tear before becoming too threadbare. The bad news is that cold, crisp air over the Continent which gave such good skiing conditions at the beginning of the week has been swept aside by a moist warm air sweeping up from the Azores. As long as this persists conditions across the Alps will be mainly cloudy and thawing at most levels. The outlook is little better with south-westerly or westerly winds persisting well into next week. If this forecast proves to be correct then at best the weather will be changeable, and at worst, warm, wet, and slushy.

Bill Burroughs

Mark Elliage



Waiting for the snow to fall: skiers in Kitzbühel

Santa and his songs

OUTINGS

CELEBRATION FOR CHRISTMAS: Shops open, bands (from brass to folk) play throughout the day, Morris dancers, handbell ringers, children's dances, Father Christmas grotto, light refreshments. Carol concert with torchlight procession at 3.30pm. Art gallery and the two museums also open. Piece Hall, Halifax, West Yorkshire. Tomorrow 10.30am-4.30pm. Free.

VOLKS RAILWAY SANTA SPECIALS: Special Christmas opening of the Victorian seaside railway. The outing includes return trip from the Aquarium to Black Rock, a present from Santa Claus, admission to the Aquarium, Dolphinarium, and Dolphin Show, hot mince pies, and hot drink (mulled wine for adults). Brighton Aquarium Station, Brighton, East Sussex. Today 11.15am and 2.15pm.

KRAFT INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: Top gymnasts from 11 countries including the USSR and China compete today for the overall man's and woman's title, tomorrow for those on individual pieces of apparatus. Alexandra Palace, London N22 (01-883 6477). Today from 1pm, tomorrow from 2pm. Tickets £6, £5, available on the door.



Who's next: Colin Baker (above) with the LSO

BARBICAN FAMILY CONCERTS: This evening, the London Symphony Orchestra play music by Anderson, Britten, and Tchaikovsky, accompanied by the Southend Boys' Choir. Tomorrow afternoon a Teddy Bears concert with the London Concert Orchestra, presented by a former Dr Who, Colin Baker, with stories, songs, music, and special appearances of Disney characters. In the evening, the second LSO family concert with the King's Singers singing carols and Christmas music in a programme of works by Chilcott, Prokofiev, Rutter, and Tchaikovsky. Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, London EC2. Box Office (01-638 8891, 01-628 8795). Teddy Bears concert today, 3pm. Tickets £5.80 (£4.80 for bear-holders). LSO Concerts today, tomorrow, 7.15pm. Tickets from £3.50 to £12.50.

VANITY FAIR: Last chance to see the exhibition of superb costumes from the BBC television dramatization of Thackeray's classic. Shugborough, Milford, near Stafford (0889 881388). Tomorrow, 2-4.30pm. Adult £1, Child 50p.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: For children only, live entertainment with Capital Radio DJ, Kelly Temple, plus cartoons, games, Father Christmas. Barbican Children's Cinema Club, Barbican, London EC2 (01-628 8795). Today 11am and 2.30pm. Admission £1.50. Club membership £2 – bookable with credit card.

Judy Froshaug

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Basket in the sun

Lanzarote tops a new chart of self-catering costs, compiled by the Lunn Poly travel agency chain. A £20 basket of groceries from Tesco in this country would cost much the same if bought in Majorca, Spain's Costas del Sol and Blanca, or in Portugal's Algarve. Go to Malta and the basket is a bargain at £15.48. But in Lanzarote in the Canary Islands, the equivalent purchases added up to £29.38.

Never mind. Lanzarote has less rain in winter than Malta – one day a week at the most, to Malta's two. Both see the sun for an average of seven hours a day.

America is the flavour of the moment in the travel industry, thanks to the strength of the pound against the dollar.

● Cosmos has reduced the cost of all its holidays North America by an average of £77. Prices start at £553 for a 10-day tour taking in New York, Washington and Niagara Falls (01-464 3400).

● Home exchanges are an increasingly popular way of cutting the cost of visiting America, and Home Base Holidays gives its members an early start by publishing its first exchange listings booklet in November – announcing new exchange offers in January, April and June (01-886 8752).

● From January 1, Host Homes North America will have a British reservations office for bed-and-breakfast bookings in 44 American states, including Alaska and Hawaii. The average room rate is US$60 a night for a double in accommodation which ranges from ski chalets, through ranches and house-boats to city flats (0202-520105).

Driven to the islands

• Two days free car hire in the Channel Islands is available to Air UK passengers flying to Jersey or Guernsey on full economy fare tickets. The offer, in conjunction with Budget Rent-a-Car, runs until March 26. Air UK flies to Guernsey from Exeter, Southampton, Humberside, Stanstead and Heathrow. To Jersey there are sevices from Exeter, Leeds/Bradford, Standstead and Southampton (0345 666777).

Both cart and horse

Trotting across Brittany in a horse drawn jaunty-cart is one of several off-beat choices in the Inn-Active brochure, Inntravel's summer programme for a group of holidaymakers it describes as "lazily active". Walking, cycling or horseriding from hotel to hotel with the luggage escorted to the overnight stops are three more. Accommodation, in small, family-run hotels and in simpler *Gites d'Etape* keeps prices reasonable (065 382 741).

A comprehensive Narrow Boat Hire Directory listing more than 100 bases from which to cruise Britain's canals and rivers is published in the January issue of *Waterways World* magazine, out now at £1.20. There is advice too for those thinking of buying their own.

TRAVEL BOOKS

● Geoff Crowther, who now lives in Australia, has written or contributed to numerous guides published by Lonely Planet.

The latest, *East Africa, A Travel Survival Kit* (£6.95), is of use to all independent travellers. Specialities of the series include travellers' safety, and inexpensive accommodation and transport.

But there is much else, too, for everyone interested in local life behind the tourist facade.

● Charlie Waite's landscape photography is both poetic, and literal. Looking at the pictures in his latest book *Landscape in France* (Elm Tree Books, £25) is to travel the length of the country in imagination and to be constantly surprised that opening a window will not let in the sounds and smells as well.

● In *East Along the Equator* (The Bodley Head, £15) Helen Winternitz recounts her journey across Zaire by Congo riverboat from Kinshasa to Kisangani and overland to the boarder with Rwanda.

The hero of the tale is the *Major Mudimbi*, the riverboat which pushed and pulled a floating village of barges and smaller boats into the heart of Africa.

S. C. P.



Bear necessities: furry friends and their owners will be singing at the Barbican

EATING OUT

Best restaurants of the year

Jonathan Meades makes his selection

THE TIMES RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Simply Nico, 48a Rochester Row, London SW1 (01-630 8061)

ITALIAN RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Meridiana, 169 Fulham Road, London SW3 (01-589 8815)

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR
Harvey's, 2 Bellevue Road, London SW17 (01-672 0114/5)

OUT-OF-TOWN RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Geddes, Town Quay, Southampton, Hampshire (0703 221159)

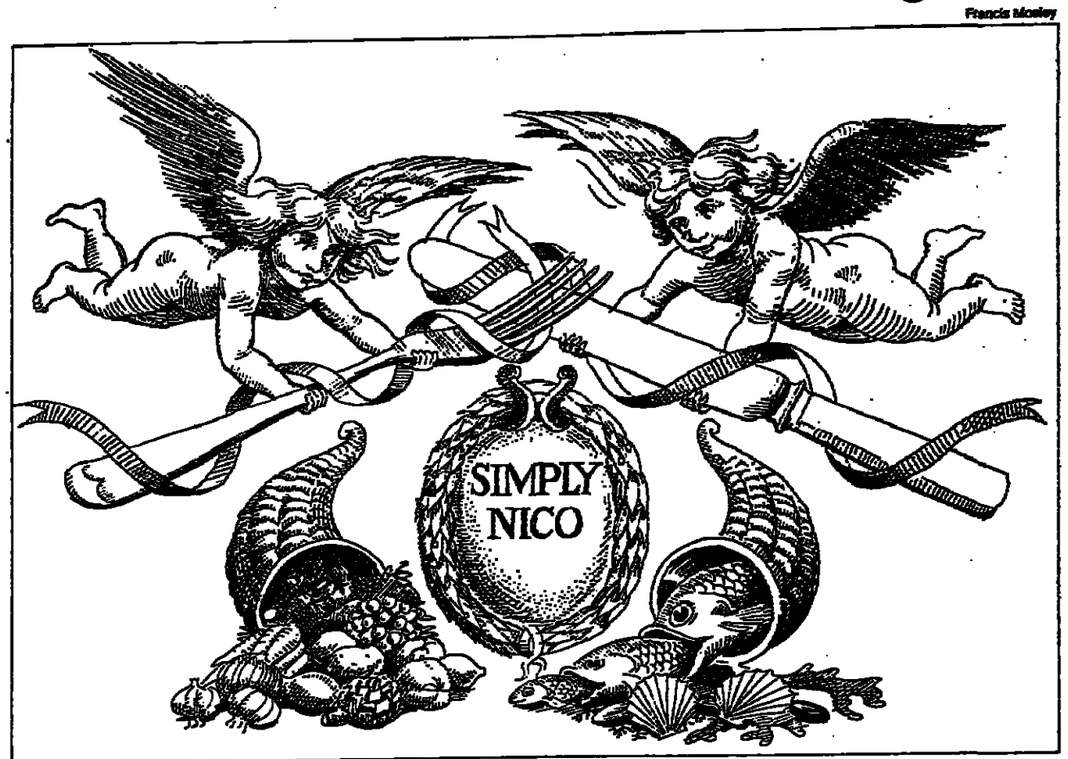
ENGLISH RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Wilson's, 236 Blythe Road, London W14 (01-603 7267)

SUBURBAN RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Barton's, 7A High Street, Ealing W5 (01-840 3297)

BARGAIN OF THE YEAR
Ikkyu, 67 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-636 9280)

NON-EUROPEAN RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
The Blue Elephant, 4-5 Fulham Broadway, London SW6 (01-385 6595)

Francis Mosley



The restaurants eligible for these awards are the 120 or so reviewed in this column during the past year. I doubt, however, that had the panel (of one – me) been given the run of restaurants the length and breadth of these islands that the winner would have been different. Nico Ladenis possesses, in addition to his manifold other gifts, consistency. He is a bit like the Liverpool football team in this regard: even at his worst he often manages to be better than most of the rest.

I have eaten at **Simply Nico** three times since I reviewed it soon after it opened last Christmas, and the only questionable dish I have had there was one that I would probably have been grateful for in most other establishments. That dish failed because of the context of the meal in which it was served, and it is worth noting that the menu that day – this was a bash for Taittinger champagne – was devised by someone other than Ladenis.

The point is that Ladenis has a marked sense of order and propriety in the shaping of an entire meal. Everything fits. That is the case too with individual dishes. The disparate components meld well even if by themselves they have a sort of curtness; this begs the question of whether one tastes a dish as an entity or whether one approaches a plate as though it were a *meze*, dipping in here and there.

That is the only Greek reference this article will contain, for although our chef's mother was Greek his restaurant is not a taverna and his cooking owes nothing to the Aegean. What it owes everything to is his persistent and obsessive matching of his performance to his very particular ideal of what great cooking should be; like everyone of any note, Nico is a successful self-creation. There is no sloppiness in his work – if chances are taken they are not discernible.

Anyone who takes food seriously in this country is bound to come a cropper sooner or later. And it strikes me that Ladenis's rare (though well publicized) bust-ups with his customers are skirmishes in the eternal cultural war between the Mediterranean and the Protestant north.

Beyond that I think that Ladenis's manners, his telling someone to leave and tearing up their bill, are not nearly so insolent as those of restaurateurs who, as a matter of course, cook indifferently conceived and ineptly executed food and have it served by shrugging oiks and charge twice what Ladenis charges; or those starry owner-chefs who pull in trade with their reputations and perpetually absent themselves from their businesses to service their concessions in Houston or Tokyo or wherever.

When Nico is away, Simply Nico closes. Of course Simply Nico is not simply Nico. His wife and daughter make the dining room run like clockwork and they employ a splendid sommelier. So, it would be perverse not to reward the most rewarding restaurant in London, if not in Britain.

But it is not without some close challengers. **Meridiana** has survived the loss of its chef, Alberico Penati. By some extraordinary chance, Penati's number two has turned out to be as good as the man I suggested might be "the first Italian to achieve the sort of reputation and fame that Koffman, Ladenis and Blanc enjoy".

John Leyton, Meridiana's owner, who imported Penati and his successor, Francesco Zani, from Milan, could make a fortune bringing them in by the container-load. Meridiana is the only restaurant in Britain essaying fine Milanese cooking. It deals in neither the clichés of London-Italian catering nor in the noble tradition of Italian rustic cooking.

The dishes here are sophisticated developments of the Milanese bourgeois repertoire. They are endlessly subtle and inventive: bass with a sweet herb crust; lentils and mashed potato; the most ambrosial risotto imaginable, a risotto so good it should go by some other name; extraordinary ravioli stuffed with chicken and sauced with porcini or walnuts; raw beef with lettuce sauce. The cooking is unquestionably that of a great restaurant, but the wine list is that of the trattoria it once was. The place is expensive, but it also inhabits a different cosmos from the rest of this country's Italian outfits; indeed I imagine that it has few peers in Italy.

Marco Pierre White, who owns and cooks at **Harvey's**, has replaced Alastair Little as Britain's most photographed hunk of kitchen beefcake. I note that Little has now grown a beard to disguise himself from the mobs of excitable teenage girls who tend to gather outside his restaurant following his weekly appearances in magazines. White, who already owns a near beard, or "neard" as they're called in advanced coiffeur circles, is perhaps in danger of becoming known as a male model with an overfondness for pig trotters.

This would be a shame for he is the most gifted young chef in the country, even though his cooking is not that of a young man – by which I mean that it has none of the gimmicks that young cooks often indulge themselves in. He is a technically assured and audaciously inventive virtuoso and although he appears to have learned his craft in the majority of England's major kitchens, he is very much his own man with a style that is bold and clean. He conjures zingingly fresh flavours, and he presents his dishes with outrageous aplomb.

M'sieur White like Ladenis, is determined that his restaurant should not be turned into a ghetto for the super-rich: two can eat at Harvey's for between £55 and £65 – which is not exorbitant. Recently I had a meal there which was breathtaking: oysters with tagliatelli, caviar and shreds of cucumber; sweetbreads with scallops and an ultra-thin potato galette; lobster ravioli sauced with tomato, fine oil often indulge themselves in. and a fish reduction; good cheeses (if all too similar); a slab of chocolate marquise the size of a paperback.

Geddes's progress since it opened near Southampton Docks just over a year ago is a frightening illustration of the problems that face high-class restaurateurs in provincial urban Britain. Despite offering very inexpensive set meals, customers were inconspicuous and the place went into receivership; it was rescued by a new owner who had the good sense to keep on the original staff, including an abundantly talented French chef, Christophe Novelli, and a notable sommelier, Giuseppe Vurchio.

Novelli's cooking is classical, restrained, and perhaps requires more sophisticated palates than those of Southampton if it is to be properly appreciated. I say this not out of metropolitan snobbishness but merely as an observation that a first class restaurant (which Geddes unquestionably is) dumped down in a place where not even a second-rate restaurant has existed before, commands no natural audience.

Barton's and **Wilson's** are remarkably similar establishments. Both are situated in west London suburbs, both possess chefs who work variations on English standards with French flair, both are reasonably priced, neither is remotely fashionable. London needs hundreds more of such places. In any truly civilized city, they could be taken for granted. Here, they can't.

You might be put off by the look of Barton's. You might be put off by the look of the menu at Wilson's. Barton's might be a Home Counties tea room. Wilson's goes in for some rash-looking dishes – but Robert Hilton has very good taste and is one of the rare cooks who actually comes up with combinations that are novel *and* good. Joe Rainert at Barton's is more conservative. Both places need to do something about their wine lists – as I seem to say most weeks, it does not make sense for modestly priced restaurants to rely on French wines. The New World beckons.

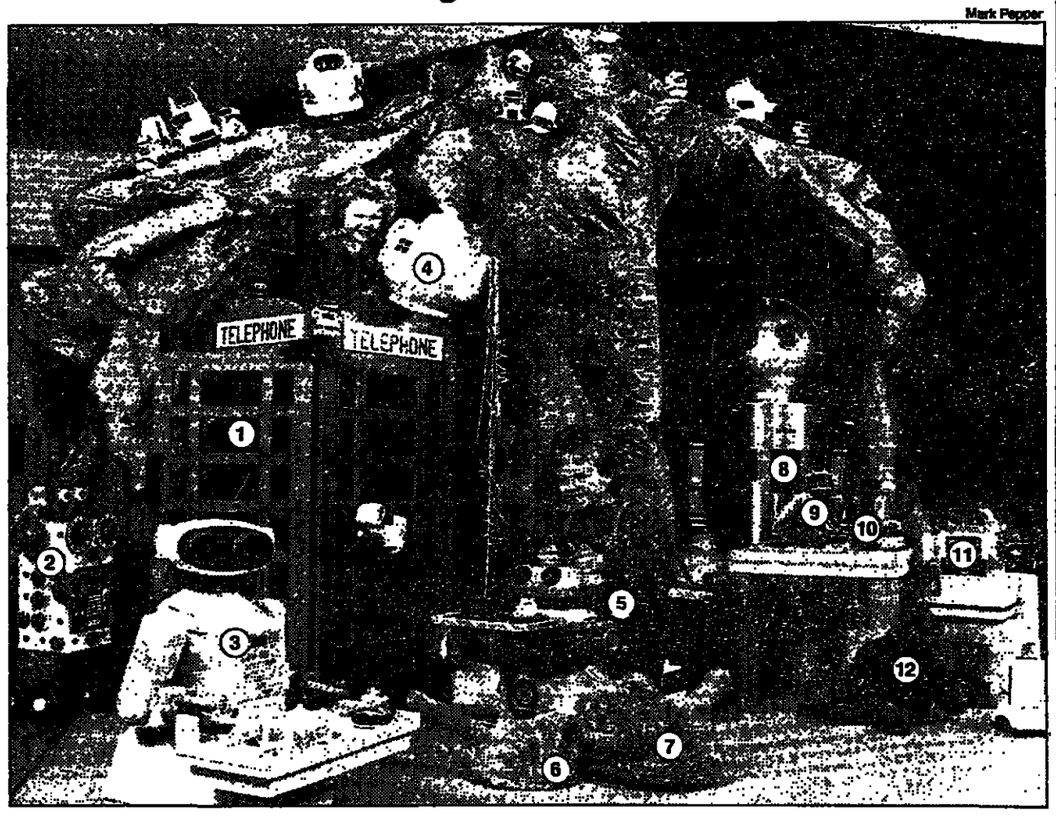
Ikkyu should not be frequented by anyone looking for a grand night out. It is probably the cheapest Japanese restaurant in London – well, Japanese caff – and the only place where Japanese home cooking is available. It *is* scruffy, *animated*, enjoyable – and the food is delicious. You don't have to take off your tie to gain entry, but it probably helps.

I am not alone in preferring the Chinese caffs of Soho to the Chinese designer environments of Chelsea. Having said that, I must now admit that the greatest oriental-gastronomic revelation was provided by the very "designed" and very expensive **Blue Elephant**. Actually "oriental-gastronomic" may be wrong, for this is a branch of a Thai restaurant in Brussels and the cooking is pepped up by Belgian mediation. But whatever the provenance of the cooking, it is special and probably worth the prices asked for it.

SHOPPING

Robots' toyland takeover

Mark Pepper



Hi-tech teatime (above) for Ruth and Matthew, outside the Robot Cave, with 1 Tardis-style Telephone box; 2 *Birobot*;3 *Omni 2000*; 4 *Bluebird Big Yellow Teapot*; 5 Armstrong; 6 and 7 Petster cats; 8 Eric the Robot (made to order in Germany); 9 Matchbox Cargantua; 10 Mattel Nintendo ROB; 11 Chatbot; 12 Petster spider

Robots, in one form or another, have figured in our *fantasies* for *centuries*. *From Metropolis* and the *Wizard of Oz* to *Star Wars* and *Superman III*, they have played a leading role in the cinema, and shelves of science fiction featuring them stretch out to the Restaurant at the End of the Universe.

But while Western manufacturers' fancies have turned to television-linked "character" merchandise, the inscrutable East – pioneers in factory robots – continues to concentrate on pure robotics for fun and profit. (The furry "Petster" robots, sold under the Tomy label, were actually developed by Axlon in California, where they like their characters to be more cosy; their robots tend to be television spin-offs and Walt Disney-style schmaltz. They also have a completely different feel about them.)

You can now enjoy a robot in the privacy of your own home for less than £12 – or more than £12,000 – but it is the mass production which has made them affordable which is most exciting.

Admittedly some of the tiny "robots" do little more than the tricks of clockwork toys, whereas the slightly more sophisticated, such as the endearing Mr D. J., make use of sound impulses which let them seem to sing or talk. The more expensive models, such as the Omni 2000, begin to be able to fulfill the age-old pipe-dream of having an automated helper around the home – but cost nearly as much as a cleaning lady. With his pincer grip he can jerkily serve you with early morning tea and wake you up with gentle music. He will even talk intelligently – with a little help from behind the scenes.

Despite the invasion of humanoid hi-tech toys such as talking Cabbage Patch dolls and story-telling bears, heavily pushed on television, the nuts-and-bolts-look robots are so popular that Tomy, the leading manufacturer of toy robots in the world, sells millions without ever advertising them on television according to Peter Brown, the managing director, although that may change soon. New robots are added to the range every year, with old favourites like Omnibot and Armstrong still going strong.

This year Harrods has set up an entire Robot Cave which doubles as a home for its special ambassador Eric the Robot, made in Germany and to order for £12,000. And when Eric and his friends invited Ruth and Matthew to tea, it made Alice in Wonderland's Mad Tea Party look sane. . .

They were transported in their bright red telephone box (£199), Tardis-style, to the Robot Cave with its flashing plasma balls (£1,350) inside. The Birobot Build a Robot (£21.95) obligingly held the kiosk door. While Mr D. J. sang along with his internal radio (£18.95), Ruth poured the tea from her Bluebird Big Yellow Teapot (£25.95) to Armstrong (£99.95) and Chatbot (£45.95). Omni 2000 (£375) used his superior skills to hand round the milk and sugar, while at the table (£42 with two colourful chairs) Omni Junior (£79.95), Matchbox's Cargantua (£25.99) Mattel's Nintendo R.O.B. (£89.95 with its complete interactive video games system) and Omnibot (£175) tackled the gingerbread house (£5.75) and strawberry tarts (£1.50) tooth and claw.

Dingbot (£7.50) and tiny Flipbot (£7.50) did their best to distract Ruth with their tricks while the playful Petsters – puppy (£45.95), cats (£99.95 and £45.95) and spider (£49.95) frolicked in and out of the cave – watched enviously by the uninvited guests on the roof. By the time they had finished, there were jammy stains all over Ruth's Demoi jester suit (£68) and Matthew's Patchagogo dungarees (£46) and sweatshirt (£42) – but a quick trip back to reality, in the shape of mother, took care of that.

Serious footnote: Of all the robots played with, Omni 2000 and Mr D. J. are the only two really useful ones – and everyone felt Mr D. J. was the outright winner for value, as both a radio *and* a conversation piece. All the robots named, unless otherwise stated, are by Tomy, and the prices are those charged by Harrods. These robots are widely available throughout the country at major stores and toyshops.

Victoria McKee

Last call for presents

If you are one of those people who leaves gift-buying until the last minute, you might need to call on the services of the following companies. Most of them take orders right up to Christmas Eve morning, for same-day deliveries.

Use the phone to rustle up some smart gift ideas, suggests Nicole Swengley



BALLOONS

Balloonatics (01-274 1388) Helium balloon-a-grams boxed and delivered in London or sent nationwide. Can also supply bouquets of balloons for parties. Order by noon today for posting throughout the United Kingdom by first-class post (£8.99) or special delivery (£11.99) and by Wednesday for courier delivery in London (£13.99). Orders taken on Christmas Eve for same-day delivery by hand in London (£14.50-£20) will be met if possible.

BATHROOM TREATS

Secret Garden (01-439 3101) Soaps and fragrances for men and women in willow baskets, terracotta dishes and porcelain shells. From £3.75 to £100. Order by Monday for nationwide courier delivery (extra charge) and by Wednesday for London deliveries.

BEARS

Inter-Teddy (01-871 3077) Gift-wrapped bears from £15 hand-delivered in London up to Christmas Eve. Order by noon today for first-class post nationwide.

BREAKFAST IN BED

Carringtons (01-546 8827) Champagne deliveries, gift-wrapped with a message, or complete breakfast with smoked salmon, croissants, chocolates, Danish pastries and a copy of *The Times*. Optional Christmas pudding and mince pies. Deliveries up to and including Christmas Eve and Boxing Day (but not Christmas Day). Prices: £16 for half bottle in basket with chocolates and flowers; £23 for one breakfast; £36 for breakfast for two.

CAKES

Cake Express (01-359 1792) Orders taken up to Wednesday for delivery in London and Home Counties. Novelty cakes from £26; traditional Christmas fruit cakes with message, from £25.

CHAMPAGNE

Champagne Gift Service (0233 89202) Gift-wrapped champagne from £19.50 per bottle for non-vintage selection Brut. Message included. Order by Tuesday for delivery by courier (extra charge) in London and Home Counties.

CHOCOLATES

Cocoa (01-446 6453) Belgian chocolates in selection of packs – Wedgwood dishes, heart-shaped boxes at £7.50 per lb plus delivery. Hand-made preserves £1.30 per jar; in basket, approximately £7. Orders taken up to Wednesday for deliveries within London.

CIGARS

Unirose Gift Service (01-749 9735) One 7in Bolivar Havana Supremas Churchill cigar in slide-top wooden case, £10.95. Orders taken up to Monday for nationwide overnight courier delivery and up to Christmas Eve (morning) for same-day delivery in London (delivery charges extra).

CRACKERS

Goodies (044 27 3954) Victorian-style Christmas cracker containing Liberty cosmetic bag, £13.50 plus delivery. Order by Wednesday for London deliveries only.

Unirose Gift Service (01-749 9735) Black crêpe cracker containing two pairs of pure silk knickers in scarlet and black, £19.75. Order by Monday for nationwide overnight courier delivery and by Christmas Eve (morning) for same-day delivery in London (delivery charges extra).

FLOWERS

Cornish Bulb Company (0326 72720) Three bunches of daffodils for £6.50 including delivery. Message included. Order by 5pm today.

FRUIT

Telefruit (01-403 0555) Exotic and seasonal fruits in a wicker basket display. Seasonal range starts from around £15 for about 22 pieces of fruit; mixture of seasonal and exotic fruit from around £20; purely exotic, £20-£75. Order by noon on Wednesday for overnight delivery service nationwide (delivery charge extra). Order by noon on Christmas Eve for London deliveries within M25 ring.

GIFT BASKETS

Basket Express (01-289 2636) Individually-designed gift baskets from £10.50 and hampers from around £25. Order by Wednesday for nationwide delivery (extra charge) and by Christmas Eve (morning) for London deliveries.

Baskets With Love (01-731 7990) Themed baskets from £30 containing, for example, heart-shaped lace cushion, cologne, soap, pot pourri, procelain dish. Also baskets containing fruit, traditional Christmas fare, port, champagne and so on. Orders taken up to Monday for delivery nationwide by Datapost (£14 delivery charge); to Wednesday for hand-delivery in London (£3 charge).

Goodies (044 27 3954) Gift baskets from around £14 plus delivery and traditional hampers from around £18. Order up to Wednesday for London deliveries. Please check with Goodies for last-minute deliveries outside London.

GROCERIES

Chalk 'n' Cheeze (01-587 0903) Domestic brokers who will visit any grocery shop in London, including Harrods, for central London deliveries, Hampstead to Wimbledon and Isle of Dogs to Shepherd's Bush. Minimum charge: £9. Orders taken up to Christmas Eve.

Home Matters (01-359 7339) Order bulk Christmas groceries by 5pm today. Orders for last-minute gifts, flowers, champagne, mince pies and so on, taken up to Tuesday for delivery within London by Christmas Eve. Charges for specific services quoted per order.

JEWELLERY

Unirose Gift Service (01-749 9735) Small, round, cultured pearl traditional earrings with gold mountings (for pierced ears) in jewellery box, £25. Order by Monday for nationwide overnight courier delivery and by Christmas Eve (morning) for same-day delivery in London (delivery charges extra).

TOYS

Unirose Gift Service (01-749 9735) Pop-up clown in wooden box, £29.95. Order by Monday for nationwide overnight courier delivery and by Christmas Eve (morning) for same-day delivery in London (delivery charges extra).

WINE

Majestic Wine (01-223 2983) Large range of low-cost wine by the case from £1.69 per bottle. Orders taken up to Christmas Eve for same-day delivery with sales of more than five cases delivered free in central London.

Victoria Wine Shops Orders for nationwide deliveries of gift-boxed bottles with messages taken up to Tuesday at 865 branches throughout the country (contact local branch for details).

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

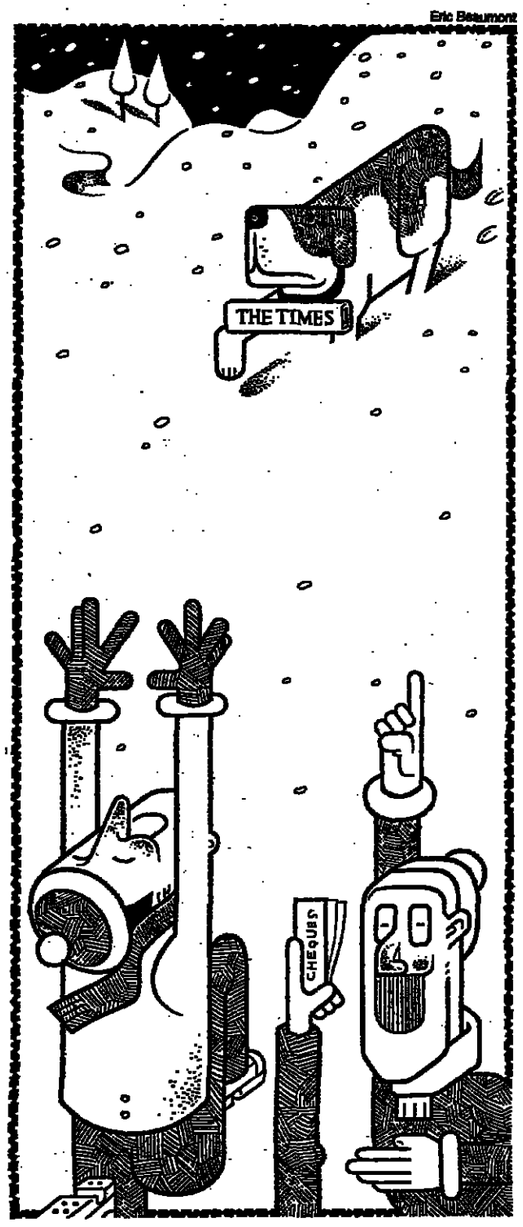
DRINK

Right wines as a matter of course

Jane MacQuitty chooses her personal selection of the best buys on the shelves from supermarket bargains to those top brands for more expensive tastes

With Christmas less than a week away, it is too late to expect a wine merchant to guarantee pre-Christmas delivery. Don't despair, however, there should still be a good selection of wine on the shelves of your local supermarket, off-licence and wine warehouse. Here is my personal choice of the very best bottles, whether you are looking for a classy white wine to serve with smoked salmon, or an inexpensive, festive red.

Eric Beaumont



BARGAIN BUYS

WHITE: 1986 Domaine de Planterieu, Côtes de Gascogne, Waitrose £2.25
This Vin de Pays from Gascony has a pleasing green-apple bite and freshness to it, that would make it a happy partner for a mild, fishy starter.

1986 Pasqua Soave Classico Costalunga, Sainsbury's £2.55
An almond scent with a crisp, green, flowery palate makes *this superior Soave a welcome* new addition to Sainsbury's shelves. Best with a creamy *hors d'oeuvre.*

RED: Arruda, Sainsbury's £1.98
Currently the best bottle priced under £2: a lovely rich, spicy, plum and cinnamon Portuguese mouthful, suitable *for spicy food.*

1985 Côtes de Duras, Seigneuret, Waitrose £2.15
An alternative to cranberry sauce, the wine to drink with cold turkey on Boxing Day. This big, bold, grassy, redcurrant wine is packed with fruit.

APERITIFS

Tio Pepe, Gonzalez Byass, Oddbins £3.99, Tesco £4.65
This light, flowery sherry should go down well with smoked salmon as well as being an all-purpose aperitif.

Alfonso, Dry Old Oloroso, Gonzalez Byass, Oddbins £4.99
Game consommé or a rich liver pâté are popular appetisers that deserve a weightier wine such as sherry to accompany them. Go for a nutty, bone-dry oloroso such as this; its depth of flavour cuts through the richest pâtés with ease and a *splash is delicious when stirred* into the soup.

1985 Sancerre, Domaine Le Grand Chemarin, Davisons £6.49
The great advantage of a Sancerre is that unlike rich white Burgundies, its refreshingly high acidity and lively flowering currant style *perks up jaded over-fed* palates and livers. Davisons' offering is my first choice and the '86 Sancerre, Domain Les Trois Pressoirs £6.39 from Threshers, is my second.

MAIN COURSE

WHITE: 1983 Chassagne-Montrachet, Les Chaumées, Domaine Albert Morey, Davisons £14.25
Fine white Burgundy, such as this glorious, buttery *premier cru*, goes perfectly with a simply prepared capon or turkey.

1983 Rauenthaler Rothenberg Riesling Spätlese, Tesco £5.89
The Germans like to serve rich, white, late harvest Spätlesen wines with fatty birds such as *goose or duck; try this well-*made, rich, honeyed Rheingau Spätlese.

1986 Rosemount Estate Show Reserve Chardonnay, Waitrose £6.25, Sainsbury's £6.75
Big, fat, buttery New World *Chardonnays also go well with* turkey and other white meats. This inexpensive, spicy, pineappley Australian wine is as fat and fruity as any Chardonnay-lover could wish for.

RED: 1984 Stratford Cabernet Sauvignon, Majestic Wine Warehouses £4.99
Turkey with all the trimmings demands a fruity, highly-charged red to go with it and California Cabernets such as this one with its gorgeous, rich, ripe cassis taste is an ideal and sensibly priced choice.

1985 St Estèphe, Majestic £4.99
Claret, so purists argue, is the only wine for turkey. And this classic, deep, ripe truffly mouthful is Bordeaux winemaking at its best, and none other than the third wine from a celebrated St Estèphe second growth.

1977 Haut Batailley, Marks & Spencer, £11
Unfashionable and undervalued, 1977 none the less produced some good *clarets of which this stylish* wine, with its fine, firm, cedary fruit is undoubtedly one. A good partner, too, for beef.

1982 Rocca delle Macie, Chianti Classico Riserva, Safeway £3.75
With goose or duck, this classic Italian red, with its high acidity and snap of bitterness on the finish, would be my first choice, in order to cut through the fat. This violet-nosed Riserva is both tremendous value and utterly delicious.

1979 Beira Mar Reserva, Paulo da Silva, Oddbins £3.99
Portuguese reds also have appetisingly high acidity and the aromatic, voluptuous, spicy *damson fruit of this wine would* go especially well with goose or duck, particularly if they were prepared with a fruit stuffing.

1985 Château le Tour Peyronneau, St Emilion, Sainsbury's £5.75
Claret can, and does, go with fatty birds, *but you need to choose an excellent right bank* offering such as this; its cedary, oak-influenced flavour *is backed up by a fine, bitter* chocolate-like finish.

1980 Chambolle Musigny, Chanson, Marks & Spencer £9.99
Game birds such as pheasant or partridge deserve rich Burgundian wines to accompany them and this Chambolle, with its fragrant cinnamon-like scent and rich savoury palate is certainly that.

1985 Wynns Shiraz, Arthur Rackhams £3.89, Threshers £3.99
Full-flavoured, well-hung pheasant and other strong game, such as venison, call for more robust red wines — Australian Shiraz is the answer. Wynns' rich, chunky, blackberry and eucalyptus-like offering is one of the best.

PUDDING WINES

1982 Moscatel de Sétubal JM da Fonseca, H Allen Smith, 24-25 Scala Street, London W1 £5.35
Most delectable with the pudding: sweet, strong and raisiny Portuguese wine.

Muscat Vieux Vin de Liqueur Frontignan, Waitrose £2.95
Southern France also produces fortified dessert wines, made from the Muscat grape, and this pale gold, sweet, robust offering is a bargain buy.

Pedro Ximenez, Valdespino, Oddbins £5.99
If your plum pudding is a very rich version then the oldest, heftiest and treacliest of dessert wines is needed. PX is the sweetening wine used by the sherry producers and Valdespino's enormous, burnt *caramel version is like a liquid* plum pudding.

DESSERT WINES

1982 Bastor-Lamontage half bottles, Oddbins £3.49
Lots of people hate plum pudding and prefer to serve fresh fruit or an exotic fruit salad. This elégant, waxy Sauternes would be the best accompaniment.

1984 Moscato d'Oro, Robert Mondavi, Majestic £5.79
Perfect with fruit salad, or tangerines and Christmas crystallized fruit, this light, aniseedy Californian wine is delicately, rather than aggressively, sweet.

1985 Clos St Georges, Graves Supérieures, Sainsbury's £3.25
Every sweet tooth's Christmas bargain buy, this pale gold, peachy mouthful would be perfect with all manner of light, fruity puddings and is bound to be a hot favourite with elderly relatives.

PORTS

1976 Graham's Malvedos, Davisons £11.95, Oddbins £12.95
To some palates, including mine, the season demands a *good glass of port to savour* and enjoy with the Stilton and nuts. This is a glorious, rose-scented, fruity wine at half the price of vintage port.

1974 Warres, Late Bottled 1978, Oddbins £10.95, Majestic £11.95
This true vintage character port, unlike most of the *spineless so-called LBV's,* provides port lovers with a rich, plummy, velvety mouthful.

Taylor's 1966, Majestic £29.95
Traditionalists would not dream of letting Christmas go by without a glass of the real thing: a rich, mature glass of Taylor's violet-scented vintage port. 1966 was a good year *and this '66 is definitely ready* for drinking now.

THE TIMES COOK

Diana Leadbetter



A fresher trim on the festive table

Perhaps this year turkey would be improved by some less traditional accompaniments? Frances Bissell suggests a few tasty trimmings

Planning the trimmings and accompaniments to go with the main dish on Christmas Day can be harder work than planning and preparing the main dish itself. The easiest way of dealing with it is, of course, to do what you have always done, whatever it is. Christmas dinner is no time for experimenting, I hear you say. Yes, but wouldn't it be fun to introduce just a few changes? Keep to your basic menu which obviously works very well, but perhaps serve the dishes in new ways?

Smoked salmon and shellfish both play a part in the traditional Christmas meal and very nice they are, too. I have suggested a way of preparing smoked salmon that makes it go a little further. You can serve the "cushions" *as snacks to go with pre-*dinner drinks or as a starter, two or three on a plate with some salad leaves, perhaps.

Smoked salmon trimmings or pieces are, incidentally, a good thing to stock up on before the holiday. Much cheaper than slices, they can be used with scrambled eggs for a leisurely breakfast, chopped up with sour cream and served inside baked potatoes for a snack, shredded and stirred into pasta with sour cream and vodka for a supper dish, chopped up with chives or spring onions in a warm potato salad as a starter, and in plenty of other ways.

Oysters served on a bed of cracked ice are, for us, the perfect starter on Christmas Day. It is a mistake, though, to consider that as an uncooked starter, they will only need a few minutes' preparation at the end. It doesn't take a mathematician to work out that a dozen oysters each for 10 guests will take some time to open. Last year's Christmas dinner was delayed considerably by failing to take this into account.

You will find no recipe here for Brussels sprouts. Nothing will persuade me to eat them, although my husband, Tom, says I'm very boring about this. But neither Anton Mosimann's recipe for shredding and stir-frying them with ginger and garlic — which I can well believe is the best recipe in the world for those sulphurous infant cabbages — nor even the baby sprouts that Marks & Spencer is selling together with a range of miniature carrots, corn and leeks can change my mind.

Now these latter three, stir-fried with garlic and ginger, *would* make a marvellous vegetable dish for Christmas. So would a bowl of new potatoes. You need to be out and about early next week to get the vegetables you want. With a rich meat course, I also like root vegetables and have included my recipe for Jerusalem artichokes. If you cannot get them, I would suggest layering thinly sliced carrots, potatoes, parsnips, turnips and celeriac and cooking them the same way.

What about Christmas dinner for one? Partridge, quail and pigeon are the perfect size for the single diner and pot roasting is the way to keep them juicy. Your pudding will, I hope, have been made already. But for those who are less than keen on the traditional Christmas pud, I have included today a recipe for something just as good and just as festive. A soufflé flavoured with mincemeat and served with a rum or brandy sauce would be a perfect light note on which to end a Christmas Eve supper or even the main meal on Christmas Day.

Smoked salmon cushions
Makes 24

- ½lb/230gm smoked salmon pieces
- 2oz/60gm softened butter
- 2oz/60gm thick plain yoghurt or sour cream
- 1 chopped shallot
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- Freshly ground black pepper
- Salt to taste
- 24 squares or diamonds cut from slices of toast or 24 small round cocktail pumpernickel slices
- ¼lb/110gm sliced smoked salmon

Make a spread by processing the smoked salmon pieces, butter, yoghurt, shallot, parsley, lemon juice and seasoning. Spread it on the pieces of toast quite thickly to make a cushion-shaped mound. Cut pieces of smoked salmon to fit, and lay these over the top. You can garnish with a little parsley or a tiny sliver of lemon peel.

The following recipe can be simply multiplied by the number you wish to serve. One partridge serves one person.

Pot roast partridge
Serves 1

- 1 partridge
- 1oz/30gm butter
- ½ tablespoon finely chopped fresh herbs
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tablespoon brandy
- 1 tablespoon port, vermouth or good red wine
- 1 teaspoon fruit jelly

Mix the butter, herbs and seasoning. Smear some over the partridge breast, and put the rest inside the cavity. Heat a little more butter in an ovenproof saucepan or casserole, and fry the bird all over until nicely browned. Pour on the brandy and set alight. Add the port. Cover with a lid or foil, and cook in a pre-heated oven, gas mark 5, 190°C/375°F for 35 minutes or so. Test for doneness. Drain off the cooking juices into a small saucepan, add the fruit jelly, cook and reduce until syrupy. Serve the partridge on a small round *of toast with a spoonful* or two of sauce.

Baked Jerusalem artichokes
Serves 4 to 6

- 2lb/0.9kg Jerusalem artichokes
- ½ pint/280ml thin béchamel or cream
- 1oz/30gm butter
- Salt and pepper

This may seem a large quantity for four people, but because of all the knobbly bits, there is often quite a lot of waste with Jerusalem artichokes. I find that if you scrub and wash them well, cutting off any bruised knobs, it is not necessary to peel them. Since making that discovery, I have served them quite often. Their sweet, nutty flavour, combined with their substantial but non-starchy texture, makes them a very good accompanying vegetable for *those who want a change from* potatoes.

Cut the vegetables into ¼ inch/½cm slices, and drop *them into a large pan of* boiling water. Bring back to boiling point, and simmer for 2 to 3 minutes. Drain. Butter an ovenproof dish, and put in a single layer of artichoke slices. Season lightly and pour on a few tablespoons of cream or béchamel. Continue with the next layer of artichokes, and carry on until you have used them all up. Finish with more cream or sauce on top. Bake on a low shelf in the oven for 25 to 30 minutes.

Mincemeat soufflé
Serves 4 to 6

- 2oz/60gm unsalted butter
- *2oz/60gm flour*
- ½ pint/280ml scalded milk
- 1oz/30gm sugar
- 4 tablespoons mincemeat
- 4 size-3 eggs

Melt the butter in a heavy-based saucepan, and stir in the flour. Cook over a low heat for two to three minutes, stirring continuously. Gradually add the hot milk to the mixture. This will thicken initially and seem lumpy, but just beat vigorously as you add more milk, and allow the mixture to boil each time you add more milk. When all the milk has *been added, stir the mixture* until smooth, and let it cook gently for 5 minutes. Butter a 7 inch/18cm, 2 pint/1.15 litre soufflé dish, and lightly sprinkle it with caster sugar. Stir the sugar and mincemeat into the white sauce. Separate the eggs, and beat the egg yolks into the white sauce, one at a time. Whisk the egg whites in a large bowl until stiff, and fold them carefully into the soufflé mixture, using a metal spoon or plastic spatula, not a wooden spoon. Pour the mixture into the prepared soufflé dish, and stand it in a roasting tin containing an inch or so of hot water. Bake in the top half of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 4, 180°C/350°F for about 30 to 35 minutes.

IN THE GARDEN

Long living blooms

Imagine having a Christmas plant that might live for 100 years. No, not an oak tree in a pot, but a cyclamen. I admit the oldest I am personally aquainted with is a mere 70-year-old, but it looks set to continue into a good old age. Despite remarkable records for longevity, many Christmas cyclamen are either discarded after flowering, or unwittingly consigned to short-term survival — usually because of over-heating and over-watering. However, some of the new forms of *Cyclamen persicum* available at florists and garden centres are much easier to keep and, specially bred as house plants, tolerate home conditions better than the older sorts.

The leaves, shapely and marbled silver, are an attraction even when there are no flowers.

How then do you look after a cyclamen to pass down to your heirs? When you first introduce it into your home, select a place for it in good, but not direct sun light. A cool place where air circulates is ideal; put the pot on a saucer of pebbles, kept wet.

The best way of watering is to give a good soak and leave it until the compost is just beginning to get dry. Feed healthy plants in bud and flower with a liquid fertilizer. The nastiest indoor pest, red spider mite, will attack cyclamen but it is no more subject to pests than any other house plant. Keep botrytis (grey-mould) at bay by watering from below in winter and picking off fading flowerstems and leaf stems, pulling them away neatly.

In the past, the standard practice was to dry tubers out during the summer, but it is easier to reduce watering to a very low level. Make sure that the exposed tuber gets sunlight for about half the day. Then in July top dress with a good compost, with a sprinkle of bone-meal mixed in. Defer repotting until the plant really looks uncomfortable in a small container. Good drainage is the key to success: never bury the tuber or let water stand on the crown of the plant, or it will rot and die. If the compost is sticky and holds water, or a drainage hole is blocked, put it right and make checks when watering.

Clare Roberts



Lifelong: Cyclamen persicum

Good varieties of *Cyclamen persicum* which come in whites, pinks and reds, are Triumph and Lustre, and mini-varieties Symphony and Puppet which is fragrant. The Cyclamen Society, Tile Barn House, Standen Street, Iden Green, Beneden, Kent, TN174 LB, should be able to advise both on cultivation and *suppliers of particular* varieties.

Francesca Greenoak

WEEKEND TIPS

- **Sow pelargoniums (pot geraniums) in a propagator at about 60-80°F (15-20°C).**
- **Bring bulbs indoors to flower when the buds show and begin feeding with a liquid fertilizer.**
- **Prune apples and pears but *not* cherries and plums.**
- **Continue to plant bare-rooted trees so long as the weather is reasonably mild.**

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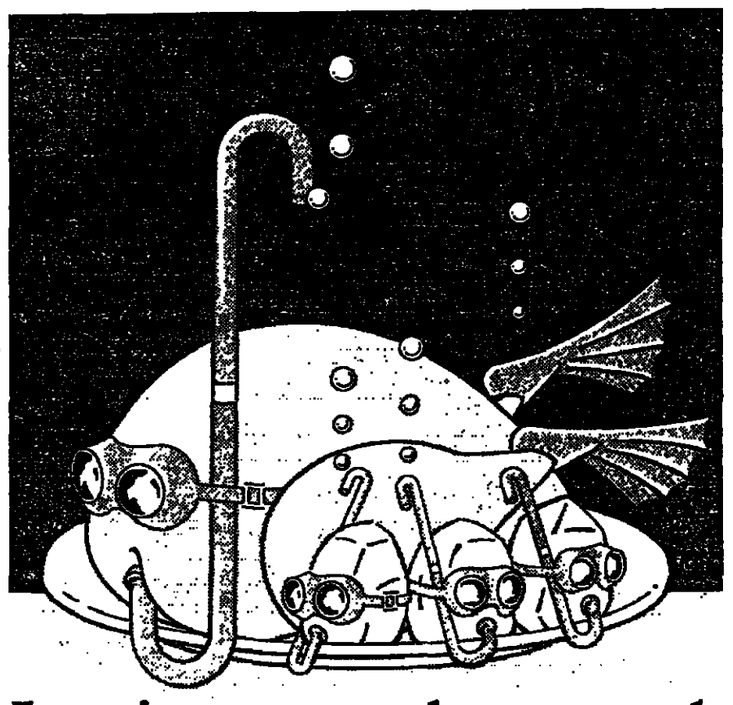
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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

A cartoon view of the holocaust

Good may be able to combat evil in all its manifestations; good taste cannot. Its very strictures prevent it from even mentioning much which it aspires to triumph over. The Holocaust was an expression of such evil as to surpass questions of mere taste, yet the inadequacy of any reaction to it makes us often fret the more over the niceties of our manner of approaching it.

The remarkable attempt by the film *Shoah* (recently shown on Channel 4) to convey the reality of the Holocaust included scenes which might have offended some tastes. In one, a barber tearfully described his experiences as a concentration camp victim, while snipping a customer's hair.

The juxtaposition of something so mundane and something so extraordinarily terrible nevertheless partly brought home the experience.

***Of Cats And Mice* (BBC2), Georg Troller's intriguing, moving film for *Arena* about Art Spiegelman, centred on a much more bizarre and, to some, a more offensive attempt to find a personal expression to convey the horror of the Holocaust — his comic-strip book *Maus*, based on the experiences of his parents, in which Jews wear mice masks, Nazis cat masks.**

The film conveyed the emotional weight and powerful significance of the choice by this immigrant son of such a populist American medium to convey the tragedy of his European family without politely smoothing over the brazen roughness of such a gesture. Even when Spiegelman retraced his parents' steps to Auschwitz, the satiric quipping of the caricaturist was not absent — he sent Kurt Waldheim a "Wish you were here" postcard. On his return he was shown talking to his therapist about how the presence of the film crew distanced him from the experience.

It is only at the end of the film that the full horror of his parents' story was revealed, how they were reunited after the war, in which their first son died, only for the mother to end up killing herself, estranged from both her husband and her second son, Art. Sometimes human bad taste is no match for the sick jokes of the gods.

Andrew Hislop

Nor custom stale...

The RSC stages a birthday tribute to Dame Peggy Ashcroft at the Old Vic tomorrow. Peter Lewis looks back at her 60 years of theatrical magic



1985: Oscar for Passage to India



1932: Cleopatra at the Old Vic



1960: In Taming of the Shrew

Amid the galaxy of theatrical talent which will take the stage at the Old Vic on Sunday in the Royal Shakespeare Company's birthday tribute to Dame Peggy Ashcroft, you will find nobody who can believe that she will be 80 on Tuesday.

"Her chief difficulty is to look old enough to play anything," wrote James Agate, and throughout her 60 years on the stage people have been perpetually amazed at her youthfulness. She played Cordelia at 47, Rosalind at 50, Katharina at 52 — and still seemed younger than her Petruchio, Peter O'Toole, who was half her age. "Age is irrelevant if you can encompass a part in your imagination," she once said.

Her extreme youth made her a sensational Juliet and a powerful influence on aspiring young actresses of the time, as Rachel Kempson recalls. "She was so young and so unmannered. She made it seem as though the lines had just come into her mind. Whatever she plays, it seems as if she's invented the lines, not learnt them."

Dame Peggy is celebrated for truthfulness off stage as well as on. Dorothy Tutin remembers being on the wrong end of this when playing Juliet at the Old Vic. "I could see from the way she came in that she didn't like it. She told me what I was doing wrong — holding up the rhythm of the lines by thinking before and during them. Peggy always tells you straight: you can trust her and be grateful. Like John Gielgud, she speaks Shakespeare as though it is her own personal language, not sounding over poetic but without losing any of the music. Watching them both rehearse the scene where Cordelia is reunited with Lear brought me to tears. Then Peggy, who was kneeling, burst out laughing and said 'Johnny, I shall never be able to get up from here with my bloody knee'. They changed places and did it again and I realized that they could do it just as well standing on their heads."

Cleopatra, which she played at Stratford to Michael Redgrave's Antony, was probably her favourite part. She wore a red pony-tail and surprised everyone by the intensity of her sexiness and spite. One of the people she bowled over was Judi Dench, whose own performance in the role has been bracketed with hers as the two finest Cleopatras since the war, and who recalled: "I saw her when I was 19 and she made an impression on me I shall never forget. Until then I had never even considered being an actor — I wanted to be a designer. It was that that kindled the desire.

"I remember sitting on the bench beside the river the next day and deciding. When I was rehearsing Cleopatra this year, she asked me how it was going. I told her there was a line I didn't know how to say. Talking to me about it, a line of only four words, she unlocked a door that gave me an insight into the whole character and emotions of Cleopatra."

Peggy Ashcroft was the first artist to accept Peter Hall's invitation to form what was to become the RSC; he has often testified that he could not have done it without her. She was the company's essential backbone — never more so than in her *tour de force* as Margaret of Anjou in *The War of the Roses* — and not only on stage. In the run-up to this marathon production, Hall collapsed from overwork and stress. "It was Peggy's strength and determination that pulled me through," he admits.

Janet Suzman remembers sitting in the wings at the first dress rehearsal, as a newcomer to the company, and whispering to the person next to her. "I asked who was that straight-backed young girl sitting on a packing case waiting to go on. I did not recognize her as Peggy — she had transformed herself into a 16-year-old girl." It was the first of her many transformations which ended as the savage and crazed old queen. These transformations owe very little to make-up. "I remember her sobbing when they made her up as Lady Teazle," recalled Rachel Kempson, "she couldn't bear all that stuff coming between her and the character."

Peggy Ashcroft says that what intrigued her about Queen Margaret was the challenge of coming on stage with her lover's severed head beneath her arm without getting a laugh. "She's the least sentimental of actresses. She never asks the audience to love her," said Sir Peter Hall, "the idea that 'my public wouldn't like to see me doing that' would never occur to her."

The idea of baring her private life or feelings to the public would never occur to her either. Dame Peggy is famous for her reluctance to be interviewed and for the inviolability of her creepered Georgian house in Hampstead, which, after three marriages, she now shares with the former nanny of her two children.

In the theatre, on the other hand, her approachability is a by-word. Judi Dench said: "When I joined the RSC, I was paralysed by the thought of working with her and Gielgud in *The Cherry Orchard*. I couldn't do a thing right for the director. But Peggy was a stalwart friend, telling me not to let him intimidate me."

Tim Pigott-Smith was a schoolboy at Stratford when Peggy Ashcroft judged a reading competition and gave him the prize.



1960: Peggy Ashcroft's simple beauty pictured by Angus McBean

"When I was working in the paint shop at the National Theatre, she smiled at me, which made my year. When we were introduced before *The Jewel in the Crown* she held out her hand and said, 'But I know you.' In India she asked me to hear her lines as Barbie and would ask me — me! — 'Do you think that's all right?' She is completely without egotism."

It is only in the past few years, after a career devoted singlemindedly to the classics, that she has turned to films and television and begun, ironically, to be recognized in the street. She was tickled by the reaction of a taxi driver who radioed to his control: "It's Miss Peggy Ashcroft, the television actress." But her greatest triumphs were Shakespearean. Her Beatrice, said Sir John Gielgud, was "a cheeky character who means well but seems to drop bricks all the time — perhaps she got it from me". She owns and treasures the copy of the play annotated by Ellen Terry. Many actors believe that in her freshness and immediacy, she is the Ellen Terry of our time.

CONCERT

CBSO/Rattle
Town Hall, Birmingham

Even his occasional unsuccessful performances add to Simon Rattle's credit, not just because they prove him to be human, but more importantly because where he fails he does so through taking risks. So it was on Thursday night, at the second of two consecutive performances of Mahler's Ninth Symphony.

Failure here is very much a relative term. The first movement was almost pure success, its tortuous workings fully fleshed out and empowered by a willingness to accept contradiction and make use of it.

Where most conductors aim for some continuing line, Mr Rattle showed how it is possible sometimes to keep two or even three balls in the air at the same time, with different orchestral groupings proposing different ways forward.

Indeed, this competitiveness became a main motive force, making the development a combat not so much of themes as of orchestral forces — a combat unfairly won by the brass with a brutally simple idea at the main climax which left the rest of the orchestra confused and embittered.

What was surprising in the finale, and much more defendable, was the lack of lachrymose leave-taking. Nothing was hurried: the last page was marvellously decelerated, and taken to a marvellous pianissimo, looking straight forward (or sideways) to Webern.

Paul Griffiths

Dorothy's a delight

THEATRE

The Wizard of Oz
Barbican

This is, to come out with it immediately, the most marvellous show.

As the music of the prelude fades, we find ourselves looking at Dorothy's Kansas barn yard, with all its well-recalled details from the black and white opening of the MGM film. The wagon, the picket fence, the sun in its leaden sky, young Dorothy and the friendly workers on the farm, Mark Thompson's design paints them in shadows, preparing us for the colour that will explode upon our eyes once we are over the rainbow.

In adapting the film so expertly for the stage, John Kane has also gone back to L. Frank Baum's original (1900) book, either contributing witty lines of his own or gathering them from scenes cut from the film. The result is a show that is literate, logical, brimful of spirit and on several occasions brings wholesome tears to the eyes.

Imelda Staunton's voice as her dog Toto is torn from her would melt the frostiest heart. Her Dorothy is never for one moment cute; she is cheery, polite, resolved, grins gorgeously, makes lovely lumpy movements when required, and gives to the last high notes of "Why, Oh Why Can't I?" a pearly clarity that is utterly captivating.



Cheery: Imelda Staunton

The Munchkins, played by children — some very young — could have been a nauseatingly sugery interlude, but Ian Judge guides them to give little individual cameos; no more than a few seconds long, but all performed with grace. Most striking are the repetitions of the command to follow the yellow brick road, each at a different pitch until the last one cues in the song.

His superb production repeatedly mounts to elegant peaks of this sort, combining charm and comedy. Paul Greenwood's sweet-tempered Scarecrow sings of his longing for a brain against a chorus of yellow-spatted crows cawing in close harmony or mocking him by playing tunes on corn cobs.

When it is the turn of the Tin Man — John Bowe, who begins with quite extraordinary squeaks while in need of oil — his backing chorus is a threesome of apple trees (rather tart) who shuffle forward on their roots, branches akimbo.

Jim Carter's Cowardly Lion, ginger-mained and bearded like a jolly Karl Marx, later has a song of his own, where, among less roguish rhymes, "elephant" is mated with "cellophane." Yip Harburg's lyrics to Harold Arlen's songs are often tongue in cheek, and this show has rescued one of them, "The Jitterbug" from the oblivion of the cutting room floor. The song has a swarm of black, uniformed US servicemen and their girls jiving around Dorothy in a whirlpool of sinister threat.

Evil is superbly presented by Bille Brown in steely purple, a Bette Davis on a bad trip who makes her last appearance at the top of a curving sweep of Hollywood ebony steps. Dilys Laye is a wittyly kind witch, Tony Church a kindly witty Wizard, and all too soon it is back to the Kansas barn yard and the reassurance that home is the safest place. Magical.

Jeremy Kingston

JAZZ

Tate/Grey
Pizza Express, London

With a combined age of 136 or thereabouts, that well-established double act Buddy Tate and Al Grey ought to be leading the leisurely lives of senior citizens. Instead they remain regular fixtures on the touring circuit.

As Tate's tenor saxophone roared into the theme of "Lester Leaps In", it was difficult to believe that almost half a century has passed since he took his seat in the Basie band, replacing the late Herschel Evans.

Grey was a later recruit, joining the revamped orchestra in the late 1950s and quickly establishing himself as one of its most distinctive trombonists. His technique remains formidable: in his solo spot, "Willow Weep for Me" the legato runs and muted tone were still more than a match for most contemporary players.

Approaching the end of their residency at Dean Street, the two have have struck up a strong rapport with their backing trio, led by the drummer Jack Parnell, who had his own moment of glory in the jitterbugging Basie anthem "Jumpin' at the Woodside", building the momentum for Tate's final charge.

Clive Davis

Pinero's farce is just dandy

The Cabinet Minister
Royal Exchange, Manchester

Here is a real find: a vintage Pinero farce of manifest financial topicality, relaunched in what seems to be its first major revival since 1890.

Written shortly after *The Schoolmistress* and *Dandy Dick*, it is quite as funny as Pinero's other farces, without quite qualifying as a companion piece.

Elsewhere, Pinero constructed specifically Victorian plots. Here he has all those Restoration favourites: the country wife, the bumpkin suitor, the divided brothers; and the half-time change of location from fashionable London to some far-flung baronial pile.

As in *The Magistrate*, it is the story of a public man devoured by family affairs. The title is the first joke. Sir Julian Twombley may be a cabinet minister — and in Frank Thornton's clerically mutton-chop whiskered performance he looks as eminent as anything punctured by Lytton Strachey — but the cares of office are nothing to what he undergoes from the women of his household.

One is his wife, Kitty, the country girl who has taken so readily to London that the household is about to collapse under a mountain of debts. Pinero's answer to the financial deadlock is to put in her the power of an upstart milliner and her husband, whose vulgar habits and greed for marmalade cause no end of embarrassment when the couple gate-crash an exclusive party.

This turn of events would look extremely snobbish were it not for the picture Pinero gives of the polite world they want to join. Its young things are programmed to deliver mindless courtesies like robots. Conversation among the elders is one long bullying campaign for money and desirable matches.

As Kitty, Susan Fleetwood has the delicate job of retaining sympathy while belonging body and soul to this world. She succeeds completely, thanks partly to the direct and witty dialogue, but more to her powers of emotional generosity. Braham Murray has directed a winner.

Irving Wardle

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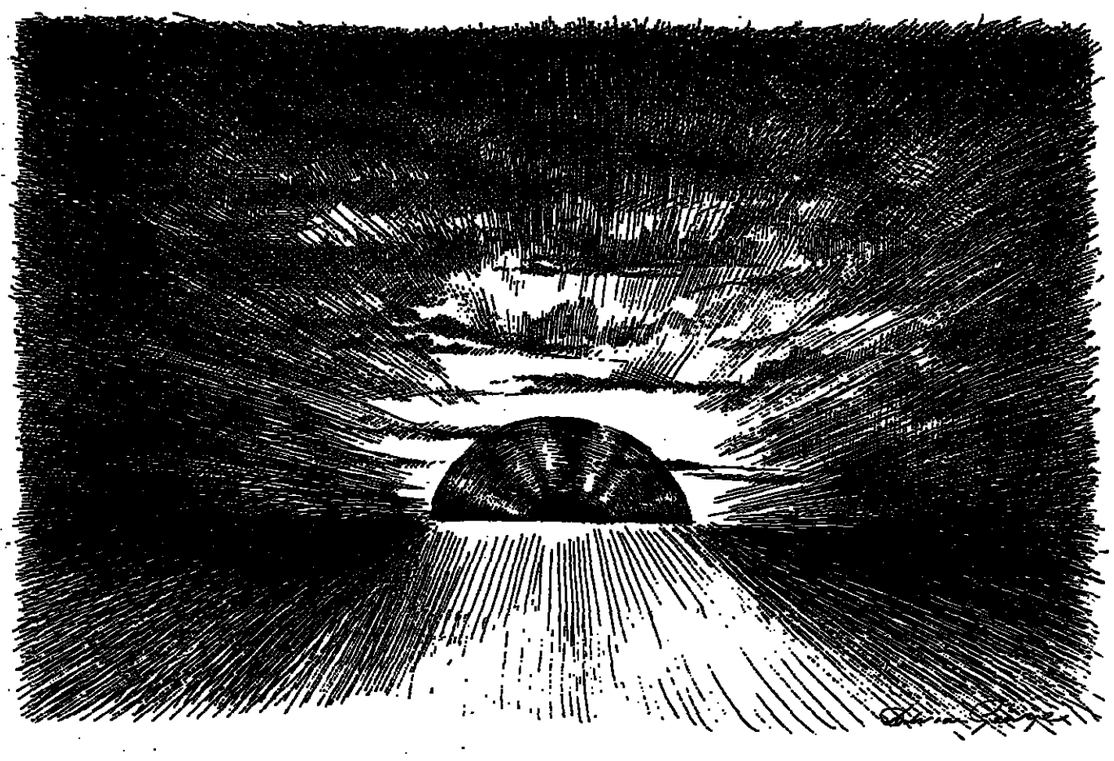
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REVIEW

Pick of the year on record



CLASSICAL RECORDS

PAUL GRIFFITHS

Arbos Hilliard Ensemble (ECM 831 959-2)
Livre du Saint Sacrement Bate (Unicorn-Kanchana DKP CD 9067-8)
Birtwistle Howarth/London Sinfonietta (Elicotera KTC 1052)
Mahler's Second Symphony Rattle (EMI CDS 7 47962 8)
Victoria Requiem Westminster Cathedral Choir (Hyperion CDA 66250)
Lohengrin Solti (Decca 421 053-2)

This has been breakthrough year for the silver saucer, bringing a vast number of re-releases; but I shall restrict myself to recordings coming round for the first time.

At the top of the list, simply because I cannot imagine anyone not responding to *its clear, tranquil strangeness, is Arbos*, a second record of music by Arvo Pärt. This is music as simple, glowing and objective as an icon; what separates it from most minimalism is what separates saints from idiots.

Not far away, of course, is the region where Messiaen's music has its being, and *it is good to have an excellent, affirmative* recording of his latest work so swiftly made available: Jennifer Bate plays his two-hour *Livre du Saint Sacrement* on the organ of his own church of La Trinité in Paris.

Elgar Howarth is also in a sense using the composer's own instrument in conducting the London Sinfonietta through three recent works by Birtwistle. This is vivid, fascinating and unignorable music, powerfully put across.

Other signal treats of the year have included a requiem and a resurrection, the latter being Mahler's Second Symphony in the Rattle performance I extolled last month. The Requiem is Victoria's, sung *with grave, rich lucidity* by Westminster Cathedral Choir under David Hill. And then there is Solti's impulsive, luminous rediscovery of *Lohengrin*, with Domingo, Norman, Randova and Sotin among the cast.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Lohengrin Solti/Vienna Philharmonic (Decca 421 053-2, 2 CDs)
Mahler's Second Symphony Rattle/CBO (EMI CDS 7 47962 8, 2 CDs)
Turangalila Symphony Rattle/CBO (EMI CDS 7 47463 8, 2 CDs)
Die Seejungfrau Chailly (Decca 417 450-2)
Choral Symphony Norrington/London Classical Players (EMI CDC 7 49221 2)
Poulenc Rogé (Decca 417 438-2)
Victoria Requiem Tallis Scholars (Gimell CDGIM 012)
Victoria Requiem Westminster Cathedral Choir (Hyperion CDA 66250)

Opera of the year has to be Sir Georg Solti's new recording of Wagner's Lohengrin, which bristles with vigour and passion, thanks to a first-rate cast which includes Jessye Norman and Placido Domingo in the two principal roles, some stupendously intense orchestra playing from the Vienna Philharmonic, and the spectacular and opulent recorded sound.

Symphony of the year is a more closely run thing, but Simon Rattle's sane, clear-sighted, and (because of that) extraordinarily powerful reading with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra of Mahler's Second Symphony just about takes preference over his impressive Turangalila. Riccardo Chailly's performance of Zemlinksky's stunningly beautiful symphonic poem Die Seejungfrau, with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, must feature in the year's orchestral short-list, with extra marks awarded for enterprise. Definitely one for Simon *Jenkins's* stocking, though perhaps he would be happier with Roger Norrington's revealingly tough but transcendent account of Beethoven's Choral Symphony.

Of music more intimate, Pascal Rogé's Poulenc disc has already been singled out as rather special by critics in other places for its exquisitely refined and varied humours. I am happy to join them. And, somewhat smugly, since my list last year featured a disc of Christmas music from them and they went on to win *Gramophone* magazine's record of the year award for two Josquin masses, I have no hesitation in commending the Tallis Scholars' Victoria Requiem; even though it has the strongest of rivals in the recording (with authentic boys rather than women singing the top lines) by Westminster Cathedral Choir.

JOHN HIGGINS

Lohengrin Solti (Decca 421 053-2, CDs)
Callas: The Unknown Recordings (EMI CDC 7 49428 2)
The Art of Tito Schipa (EMI EX 29 0948 3, 2 black discs)
Bohème Beecham (EMI CDS 7 47235 8)
Rossini Arias Gimenez (Nimbus NI 5106)
William Boyce: 8 Symphonies Pinnock/English Concert (Archiv 419 631-2)

In a rather thin year for new opera sets of distinction Solti's interpretation of Lohengrin stands head and shoulders above its competitors. It is a lustrous set, lustrously led by Domingo and Jessye Norman. And Solti himself, with the aid of what must have been a first class technical team, coaxed the finest operatic playing of the year from the Vienna Philharmonic.

The reissue market was dominated by EMI. No vocal collector is likely to pass up *Callas: The Unknown Recordings*, with that imperfect but extraordinary Liebestod from the Athens Festival and some most alluring Bellini. Room must be found for The Art of Tito Schipa, the only selection not available on CD. Schipa was the supreme stylist, a tenor who permitted no vulgarities, and much of the best of him is *here. From EMI too came the refurbished* CD version of Beecham's 1956 Bohème, which as we now know was slapped together in a fortnight or so yet sounds as though it had been planned for years.

Raul Gimenez is among the most interesting of the year's newcomers and his collection of Rossini Arias is neatly *assembled to show off his highly flexible* tenor.

Final place goes to the CD I have played most this year, William Boyce: 8 Symphonies performed by the English Concert under Trevor Pinnock (Archiv 419 631-2). Here is truly *English* music, joyous and direct, a true restorative, especially with a Scotch and soda, after a long day.

HILARY FINCH

Pre-War Heifetz/Barbirolli Recordings (EMI EX 7 49375 1)
Spring And Kreutzer Sonatas Menuhin (CFP 4520 CD)
Rameau's Dance Suites Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century (Philips CD 420 240-2)
Haydn's Creation Harnoncourt (Teldec/ASV CD 6 35722)
Liszt Behrens (DG CD 419 240-1GH)
Wolf's Mörike Lieder Bär (EMI CDC 7 49054 2)

It has been a particularly good year for re-issues, most memorably, the pre-war Heifetz/Barbirolli. The idiosyncracies of both musicians bring a strange and wonderful chemistry to this performance. It was very much a question of exact time, place and partnership, too, in a re-issue of Yehudi Menuhin's Spring and Kreutzer Sonatas with his sister, Hephzibah. This 1961 performance is unique among his recordings in its freedom of spirit and imagination.

Frans Bruggen's Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century has turned up a live recording of two of Rameau's Dance Suites, *Les Boréades and Dardanus*, both irresistibly toe-tingling, pungent in their instrumental flavours and bristling with stylistic vitality.

Nicholas Harnoncourt, with a no less meticulously blended palette of instrumental sounds, has produced a penetrating performance of Haydn's Creation. Poised between *the spiritual* heaven of a Kuijken and the abundant earth of a Karajan, this is re-creation indeed, with a dulcet fortepiano continuo supporting lively performances from Gruberova, Protschka and Holl.

Of all the Liszt still being restored and reframed, I particularly enjoyed Hildegard Behrens's recital of songs for its thrilling performance of the dramatic scena, *Jeanne D'Arc*, and for its understanding of the Wagner in Liszt. Olaf Bär's exceptionally fine recital of Wolf's Mörike Lieder came *just in time for Christmas, his finest disc to* date, confirming his position among the rising generation of Lieder singers.

ROCK RECORDS

DAVID SINCLAIR

U2 The Joshua Tree (Island U 26)
Michael Jackson Bad (Epic 450290 1)
Prince Sign 'o' the Times (Paisley Park WX 88)
Marc Almond with the Willing Sinners Mother Fist and Her Five Daughters (Virgin FAITH 2)
Head A Snog on the Rocks (Demon FIEND 95)
Los Lobos & Others La Bamba (London LONLP 36)
Eric B & Rakim Paid In Full (4th & Broadway BRLP 514)
Salif Keita Soro (Stern's Africa STERNS 1020)
Sisters of Mercy Floodland (Merciful Release MR 4411)
Del Fuegos Stand Up (London SLAP 20)

There was really no arguing with the pre-eminence of U2 in 1987, and The Joshua Tree did everything an album is supposed to do. Its grand, panoramic sweep was instantly impressive yet the collection was slow to surrender a cache of deeper, resonant attractions. It also proved to be a *fecund provider of* transatlantic hits, with melodies and titles that struck home like emotional dum-dum bullets: "With or Without You", "*I Still Haven't Found* What I'm Looking For" and "Where the Streets Have No Name".

It had taken Michael Jackson five years to collect his wits after producing *Thriller, but the follow-up*, Bad, betrayed neither a lack of nerve nor any signs of the self-indulgent, over-protective neurosis that one suspects attended such a prolonged period of gestation. Instead it was a superb dance record of undiminished vitality that plugged *into the lyrical* and musical vocabulary of the street with a facility that was all the more surprising given his reputedly reclusive lifestyle.

Prince continued to operate like a Hugh *Hefner to Jackson's Howard Hughes*, banging out a double album, Sign 'o' the Times, with an ambience expensively crafted so as to sound like a package of demos. "If I Was Your Girlfriend" was one of the year's most memorable singles, a sparse, yearning song laden with prescient insight into the fundamentals of the sexual divide, yet simultaneously laced with the kind of lewd innuendo more worthy of a cheap after-shave advertisement.

Neither Marc Almond's Mother Fist and Her Five Daughters nor Head's A Snog on the Rocks fitted comfortably into any of the established pigeon-holes and neither sold well, but both were serviced by a clear-sighted pursuit of fresh musical goals and leavened by sustained bursts of recondite humour.

The year was marked by a deluge of recycled material. The soundtrack of the *movie* La Bamba, *in prompting loving* recreations of Fifties rock 'n' roll songs originally performed by Ritchie Valens, Eddie Cochran and others, not only conveyed a sense of urgency in its desire to communicate to new generations the essence of rock's heritage, but also provided a most welcome breakthrough for Los Lobos, *who enjoyed* a No 1 hit with the title song.

Hip hop continued to seep into the rock mainstream with little dilution of its original intent. Eric B. & Rakim were the unsung heroes of the L.L. Cool J package tour and Paid In Full revealed Rakim as a rapper with a languid, beguiling vocal *timbre to go with the usual tough rhymes.*

In the wake of the explosion of interest in African music in 1986, the year saw the establishment of "world music" as a generic term to describe popular music *from around the globe that doesn't already* fall into an existing category such as jazz, rock or reggae. The best of world music still tended to come from Africa, and Salif Keïta's Soro won unanimous critical acclaim for its arresting fusion of styles and for Keïta's unique, soaring vocal technique.

Like a musical Grim Reaper, Andrew *Eldritch of the Sisters Of Mercy returned* with Floodland, an eerie concoction of synth-pomp-gothic-rock that has far from run its commercial course, despite a *low* pre-Christmas placing. And in an over-subscribed corner of the market, the Del Fuegos from New Hampshire turned out the year's best roots-rock effort, a magnificent third album, Stand Up, full of tough R 'n' B guitar, grimy horns, Hammond keyboards and Dan Zanes's heroically *slobbish vocals.*

JAZZ RECORDS

RICHARD WILLIAMS

Modern Jazz Quartet/New York Chamber Symphony Three Windows (Atlantic 254839)
The Complete Blue Note Herbie Nichols (Mosaic MR5-118, 5 discs)
Atlantic Jazz (Atlantic 781712, 15 discs)
Ornette Coleman In All Languages (Caravan of Dreams CDPT 83008, 2 discs)
Wynton Marsalis Marsalis Standard Time Vol 1 (CBS 457039)
Sun Ra A Night in East Berlin (Leo LR 149)
Stan Sulzmann/John Taylor Everybody's Song But My Own? (Loose Tubes LTLP 004)
Danny Thompson Whatever (Hannibal HNBL 1326)
Pat Metheny Group Still Life (Talking) (Geffen 924145)
Salif Keita Soro (Stern's Africa 1020)

Jazz may be an art of spontaneity and surprise, but great jazz can also be the result of decades of labour. Founded in 1954, the Modern Jazz Quartet reached a new pinnacle of achievement this year with Three Windows, in which John Lewis integrated the quartet with a string orchestra. Bejewelled improvisations emerge from within a gorgeous ensemble texture in a dramatic revision of the famous "Django", in the newer "A Day in *Dubrovnik" and in a superb conflation of* three themes — "The Golden Striker", "Cortège" and "Rose Truc" — written many years ago for the film *No Sun in Venice*. No matter how delicate the filigree, the spirit of the blues is never far away.

Just arrived, The Complete Blue Note Herbie Nichols is the reissue of the year — *although it is much more* than that, since this lovingly presented box includes eight previously unknown compositions and 16 unreleased alternate takes alongside the three albums that Nichols recorded for Blue Note in the middle Fifties. A New York pianist who died in total obscurity in 1963, aged 44, Nichols should be filed next to Thelonious Monk.

For anyone still testing the water, Atlantic Jazz goes all the way from the shallows (Corea, Jarrett) to the deep end (Mingus, Coltrane) of the post-war period in the space of 15 thoughtfully compiled discs, available separately or — in the year's most sumptuous jazz gift — together, with enough bona fide classics included to give the set a meaningful historical shape.

For In All Languages, the educational experience of the year, Ornette Coleman had the imaginative idea of persuading his reunited quartet of the late Fifties — which once started a revolution — and his current electric funk band, Prime Time, to play the *same themes. Presumably hoping to prove* something about the conceptual unity of his "harmolodic" theory, Coleman succeeded in demonstrating what was right about the old music, and what is wrong with the new.

A superlative trumpeter — to some people, Wynton Marsalis still sounds simply too good to be true — and three remarkable accompanists combined in songs such as "April in Paris" and "Cherokee" to make Marsalis Standard Time Vol 1 the year's finest soloist-with-rhythm recording. By contrast with such polished and rigorous neo-classicism, Sun Ra and Cosmic Discipline Arkestra began *A Night in East Berlin* — *the big-band* album of the year — with a free collective improvisation evoking the heady self-indulgence of the Sixties, before moving on to jaunty science-fiction chants, weird synthesizer solos and updated swing-era routines.

The best British recordings were both intimate affairs. In Everbody's Song But My Own?, Stan Sulzmann (reeds) and John Taylor (piano) explored the attractive compositions of Kenny Wheeler with great finesse, while for Whatever the bassist Danny Thompson devised a form of melodic folk-jazz reminiscent of the old Jimmy Giuffre Trio.

Pat Metheny and his group gave the concert of the year, at Hammersmith Odeon in the summer, playing many older favourites alongside the material from Still Life (Talking), notably the gloriously *poignant* "Last Train Home".

Finally, one must move a step or two away from jazz to mention perhaps the most vital release of 1987 *hors catégorie*: Salif Keïta's Soro, a majestic work by a singer from Mali who used today's technology to express ageless emotions, speaking effortlessly across continents and *generations.*

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Behind the lines ...

Unrequited love, a handsome poet killed in battle . . . what fascination lies behind the dry announcement that literary papers and letters of the writer Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) have been donated to the British Library by her niece.

Farjeon, a prolific children's writer, also published a memoir of the poet, Edward Thomas, killed during the First World War. Thomas burnt his papers before leaving England, but a large collection of letters from him, including more than 100 to Farjeon, are owned by Wandsworth Libraries. How pleasing if the scribblings of these two friends could be conjoined in *an exhibition.*

Crowd puller

Despite early mutterings of doom, Jonathan Miller's *forthcoming season* at the Old Vic is breaking subscription records — already 8,000 subscribers, representing 25 per cent of the theatre's capacity, have booked to see his frequently arcane choice of seven plays, beginning next



Miller and Hurwicz

month with Racine's rarely-performed *Andromache*, starring Janet Suzman, and continuing with an adaptation by Brecht of Lenz's *The Tutor*, which marks the London *directing debut* of Angelika Hurwicz.

● "You have probably heard it 100 times and not realized what it was," says Cynthia Millar. "It sounds ravishing kind of floating over an orchestra." 'It' is an *ondes Martenot*, among the earliest of electronic intruments devised, complete with keyboard, console and three speakers, in Paris in the mid-1920s. Millar, daughter of Sir Oliver Millar, outgoing Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, is one of a handful of players of the *ondes Martenot* and will be heard tonight during a concert of French music for Christmas at Snape Maltings.

Chain of events

Dancer Michael Clark uses the sound of a chain-saw in *Because We Must* — just *opened at the Sadler's Wells* Theatre — thanks in part to an overheard children's show. He was rehearsing his chain-saw scene when he heard the "chain-saw music" used at the Wells by the Whirligig Children's Theatre in *The See-Saw Tree*. Clark borrowed the tape for his show.

A true PR man

What with praise from the Arts Minister and fulsome notices for his traditional interpretation of *The Marriage of Figaro* in Chicago, Sir Peter Hall looks in danger of *fulfilling a prophesy* made by NT press supremo John Goodwin during a stormy period of verbal attacks in 1974 and recorded in his published *Diaries*: "John said this would probably go on until my late fifties when I might hope to become a grand old man." Sir Peter is 57.

Lynda Murdin

BRIDGE

It would obviously be a waste of time discussing the respective merits of the Pytchely and the Quorn with an ardent member of the Anti-Blood Sports fraternity. It is almost equally futile suggesting to some people that new-fangled bridge systems possess any merit whatsoever.

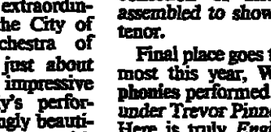
Some months ago I argued that systems which place an aggressive foot in the opponents' bidding space must convey a distinct advantage to their practitioners, especially against the weak teams in a European Championship or a World Olympiad. In Jamaica, it was evident that even the best players in the world experienced great difficulty countering unfamiliar methods.

Of course, it is easy to say that the errors were attributable to the players, not the strange systems, but without the systems the players would have had no problems to overcome.

Great Britain deployed two space-age systems: Forrester and Armstrong played the "TRS"; Sheehan and I used the "Boomerang Club".

Here is a hand from the final, against the vastly experienced Americans. On an innocuous little part score hand, the swing was 500 — or 11 IMPs.

Board 7. Great Britain v USA. Game all. Dealer West



This was the bidding in the Open room, where Britain were North-South.

W	N	E	S
Hamman	Forrester	Wolff	Brock
No	1♠	No	1♡
1♠	No	3♠	No
No	No	–	–

When Forrester found the good lead of the ♠J, Hamman was always fighting a losing battle. He eventually emerged with 7 tricks, 200 to Great Britain.

In the Closed room the Americans had a little misunderstanding.

W	N	E	S
Sheehan	Lawrence	Flint	Rose
1♠(1)	Dbl(2)	No	1♡
No	1♡	No	2♣
No	No(3)	No	–

(1) Normally equivalent to a pass
(2) By agreement, equivalent to an opening bid of one club in their system
(3) It is a mystery why Lawrence didn't bid two diamonds at this point

We defeated this strange contract by three tricks, which could have been more if we had appreciated the extent of the American muddle in time.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

No matter what the result, the world chess championship in Seville has been a worthy battle between two great Masters, providing us with a knife-edge ending that will be discussed for decades. Kasparov and Karpov have displayed brilliance and tenacity throughout the contest. The game this week is my attempt to elucidate one of the razor-sharp draws from the match. It is fitting that honours should remain even in this particular clash of chess-*board arms.*

White: Kasparov; Black: Karpov. Game 20, December 4, Queen's Gambit Declined.

1 c4	e6	2 Nc3	d5
3 d4	Be7	4 Nf3	Nf6
5 Qc2	0-0	6 Bg5	c5

6 . . . h6 7 Bxf6 Bxf6 8 e4 dxe4 9 Qxe4 c5 10 0-0-0 would seem to be something Black should strive to avoid.

7 dxc5	Qxc4		

Sensibly clearing the centre and thus increasing his prospects of equality, though at this stage I doubt that Karpov was *aware of the analytical* storm brewing.

8 e4	Qa5	9 e5	Nd5
10 Bxc4			

This capture constitutes a novelty. The imminent capture is, however, possible due to a subtle point revealed by White's 11th move.

10 –	Nxc3	11 0-0!	

Here is the evidently prepared crux of Kasparov's opening variation. Black now has to tread a steady path to reach something less than equality.

11 –	Qxc5	12 Qxc3	Nc6
13 Bxa7	Qxe7	14 a3	

A refined move which quietly augments his dark square grip. Grandmaster Gufeld proposed the "improvement" 14 Rad1 planning the simple Rd6 and Rfil. Korchnoi countered by suggesting that Black had to trade one pair of Rooks, eg by 14 . . . Rd8 15 Bb3 Rxd1 16 Rxd1 Bd7 followed by . . . Rd8, when it is not clear that White can *achieve anything.*

14...	Bd7	15 Rac1	Rfd8

This position represents a strategic Rubicon for White — should be attack on the King's flank or the Queen's? After immense reflection, Kasparov chooses the latter, but at the close of play he felt that this might have been where he first let his advantage slip. The major alternative is 16 Qe3.

16 b4	a6		

There was much discussion of 16 . . . b5 but then 17 Bxb5 Nxb4 18 Bc4 Nd5 19 Bxd5 exd5 20 Qc5 is very much in White's favour. Black also fails to shake off the pressure after 18 . . . Nc6 19 Ba6 Rab8 20 Rb1. Karpov's plan is much more flexible.

17 Qe3	Ba8	18 Bd3	Na7
19 Rb1	Bc6	20 Ng5	b5
21 Na4	Nb5		

A cool reply, intending to parry 22 a4 with . . . Nd4 23 Nd6 Qg5 when White has nothing.

22 Rc4			

Threatening Nf6+ so the time has come to liquidate.

22 ...	Bxa4	23 Bxa4	

Envisaging a slightly advantageous endgame where White's Bishop will be superior to Black's Knight. If 23 Qxe4 g6 24 Qe3 Kg7? 25 Rfc1 with a great advantage, but Black simply plays 24 ... Rac8 when 25 Rxc8 Rxc8 26 Qxh6 Nxa3 is fine.

23 –	Rac8	24 Rxc8	Rxc8
25 Rc1	Rxc1+	26 Qxc1	Qd7
27 g3	b6		

Normally Queen and Knight represent a more flexible combination of forces than Queen and Bishop — the problem for the Queen/Bishop duo is that they tend to duplicate functions. This position is an exception and Black must continue to play with utmost care to avoid *losing.*

28 Kg2	Qd8	29 b4	a5
30 bxa5	bxa5	31 Qc5	Nb4
32 h5	f5!		

After long thought, Karpov finds an heroic defensive resource. If he sits passively with 32 ... Nf5 then 33 g4 Ne7 34 Qd6 is one unpleasant example of what might occur. The most dangerous line Karpov had to calculate — in time shortage — was 33 exf6 ep gxf6 34 Kh2 (not 34 Bg6? Qa8+) 34 . . . f5 35 Bg2 Kg7 36 Qa7+ Kg8 37 Qb7 waiting for a Black King move, eg 37 . . . Kh8 38 Qf7. But now that White's Queen no longer attacks the Knight on d4 Black can play 38 . . . Qe8 hitting h5 and the whole defensive operation holds together. Recognizing that he cannot gain anything by liberating his Bishop in this fashion Kasparov immediately played. . .

33 Bb7			

This will meet 33 . . . Qb8 with 34 Qc8+ when the Bishop v Knight ending still favours White. Karpov's next finesse, however, finally banishes all danger.

33 ...	Kf7	34 Kh2	Qb8
35 Qxd4			

Not 35 Bg2 Qb2.

35 –	Qxb7	36 g4	

A final try.

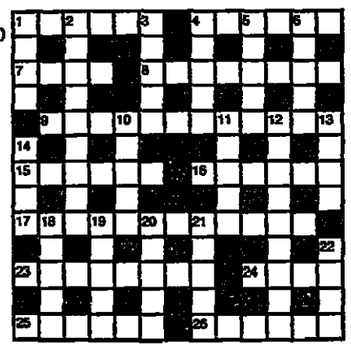
36 –	Qf3	37 Qd7+	Kf8

And Kasparov offered a draw which Karpov accepted. As became the norm towards the end of this match the two stayed on stage for a while chatting amicably about what might have been.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1443

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Wednesday December 23. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, December 26.



ACROSS
1 8 Imperial gallons (6)
4 Strut (6)
7 Horse harness (4)
8 Cross carrier (8)
9 High fashion (5,7)
15 Puzzle (6)
16 Scrapes feet (6)
17 London diamond centre (6,6)
23 In nervous state (8)
24 Feeble man (4)
25 Large stain (6)
26 Fix (6)

DOWN
1 Rothesay isle (4)
2 Anti-capitalist (9)
3 Money, wealth (5)
4 Second smallest planet (5)
5 Inclined (5)
6 Applaud (5)
10 Musical speed (5)
11 Open sore (5)
12 Callous (9)
13 Lack of restraint (4)
14 Net (4)
18 Horrible (5)
19 Jeering remark (5)
20 Nick (5)
21 Dart (5)
22 Heavy foil (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1442

ACROSS: 1 Balzac 4 Plasma 7 Cite 8 Eurydice 9 Reputed 11 Samba 12 Mazzo de la Roche 15 Cushy 16 Entebbe 20 Unfetter 21 Horn 22 Talk up 23 Enamel

DOWN: 1 Buckram 2 Let up 3 Crepe 4 Pure 5 Seismic 6 Arena 10 Toddy 11 Strut 13 Zestful 14 Eternal 15 Cruet 17 Nerve 18 Broom 19 Atop

The winners of prize concise No 1437 are: D. Barfoot, Chesham Parade, Belfast; and Diane Payne, Priests Lane, Shenfield, Essex.

SOLUTION TO NO 1437 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Loving 4 Desist 7 Mule 8 Inkerman 9 James Boswell 15 Grieve 16 Breeze 17 General Smuts 23 Engineer 24 Roll 25 Jilted 26 Exceed

DOWN: 1 Lime 2 Valuation 3 Grips 4 Dekko 5 Shrew 6 Small 10 Elver 11 Scram 12 Electrode 13 Lees 14 Agog 18 Ennui 19 Exist 20 Ahead 21 Sorge 22 Plod

Name _____

Address _____

CHRISTMAS TELEVISION AND RADIO

By Peter Waymark



FILMS ON TV

THE JONES BOY: Harrison Ford on the trail of the magical Sankara stone in Steven Spielberg's *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*, made in 1984 and having its British television première on Christmas Day. A successor to Spielberg's *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, though the story is set two years earlier, the film is another affectionate homage to the old Saturday morning serials — fast, furious, noisy and full of ingenious cliffhangers. For a family film, it is also quite violent and often scary. BBC1, Christmas Day, 3.40-5.35pm.



TV PLAY

GAMBLING MAN: Stewart Granger, the swashbuckling hero of British films in the 1940s, makes a rare television appearance in *The Story of a Recluse*. This tale of a gambler (Granger), a young man and a pretty girl was started by Robert Louis Stevenson and has been finished by the Scottish writer and poet, Alasdair Gray, who also appears in the drama as himself. Stevenson turns up, too, played by Bill Bryden, and so do the play's producer (Bill Paterson) and director (David Hayman). BBC2, Christmas Day, 10.35-11.25pm.



TV THRILLER

CLUE SNIFFER: Joan Hickson spent a lifetime in the relative obscurity of supporting roles before rocketing to stardom at the age of 78 as Agatha Christie's sleuth, Miss Marple. That was three years ago and now no Christmas would be complete without her. In *4.50 From Paddington* she is on the scent of a murder committed from a train. The trouble is that there is no body and Detective Inspector Slack (David Horowitch) is convinced that this time the old girl really is round the bend. BBC1, Christmas Day, 8.15-10.05pm.



TV SOAP

STREETWISE: Jean Alexander has been playing the charlady Hilda Ogden in *Coronation Street* for 23 years. Now she has decided to call it a day, despite petitions from disappointed fans. The talkative, gossipy Hilda, of the head scarf and curlers, ranks with Ena Sharples and Elsie Tanner as one of the *Street's* most memorable characters. She will take her leave during a special episode of the show which may prove to be an ITV trump card in the Christmas ratings battle with the BBC. ITV, Christmas Day, 7.30-8pm.



FILMS ON TV

MELO YELLOW: Barbara Stanwyck as the American missionary who falls for a Chinese warlord (Nils Asther) in Frank Capra's extraordinary 1932 film, *The Bitter Tea of General Yen*. It had a bumpy ride. As if the interracial love affair was not controversial enough, the film was also considered dangerously erotic and was banned by the British censor. It launches a season of Stanwyck movies on BBC2, mainly dating from the 1940s and early 1950s when she was the queen of Hollywood melodrama. BBC2, Monday, 12.20-1.45am.



RADIO

THE LAD HIMSELF: Tony Hancock returns to the airwaves with one of his early Half Hours, *The Television Set*, which has not been heard since 1955. It is one of five vintage Hancocks which have been pulled out of the archives for Christmas. Despite his success in television Hancock never surpassed the comic brilliance of his radio shows and they come up as fresh today as they did when first broadcast 30 years ago. Tune in to Radio 4 on Christmas Eve between 12.25 and 12.55pm and at the same time on the next four days.

On a television near you

TODAY

THE BIG LIFT (1950): Montgomery Clift and Paul Douglas as United States airmen at odds with each other during the Berlin airlift. Channel 4, noon-2.15pm.

● **TARZAN THE APE MAN (1932):** The Tarzan debut of the former Olympic swimming champion, Johnny Weissmuller, with Maureen O'Sullivan (mother of Mia Farrow) as Jane. Launches a Weissmuller/Tarzan season. BBC2, 12.25-2pm.

THE SLIPPER AND THE ROSE (1976): Bryan Forbes's faithful, overlong version of Cinderella with pretty decor but forgettable songs. With Gemma Craven as Cinders and Richard Chamberlain as Prince Charming. BBC2, 4.35-6.55pm.

●● **WHEN FATHER WAS AWAY ON BUSINESS (1985):** Director Emir Kusturica won the top Golden Palm award at Cannes with this charming study of the frustrations and iniquities of Yugoslavian life in the 1950s as seen through the eyes of a six-year-old boy. BBC2, 10.50pm-1.05am. *British television première*

● **THE ANDERSON TAPES (1971):** Sidney Lumet's crisp thriller has Sean Connery as an ex-con with a bold plan to burgle a plush New York apartment, unaware that his every move will be bugged. BBC1, 11.55pm-1.30am.

● **WELCOME TO LA (1976):** Keith Carradine as a moody rock composer bed-hopping his way to fame on the West Coast. The directorial debut of Robert Altman protegé Alan Rudolph. Channel 4, 12.50-2.45am.

TOMORROW

TREASURE ISLAND (1950): Robert Newton overacting memorably as Long John Silver in the Disney version of Stevenson's classic. BBC2, 3-4.35pm.

● **JAWS (1975):** Steven Spielberg's tall tale of a man-eating shark which threatens Long Island holidaymakers. BBC1, 7.50-9.50pm.

● **RAGTIME (1981):** Solid, selective version by Milos Forman of E. L. Doctorow's fact-and-fiction panorama of America in the 1900s. Look out for James Cagney in his last film role as a comic cop. BBC2, 10.05pm-12.40am.

WING AND A PRAYER (1944): The adventures of an American aircraft carrier in the Pacific after Pearl Harbour. The crew includes Don Ameche and Cedric Hardwicke. Channel 4, 10.10pm-midnight.

MONDAY

● **TARZAN AND HIS MATE (1934):** The best of the Weissmuller Tarzans, a spectacular tale of ivory hunters. The only film directed by Cedric Gibbons, who was much better known as one of Hollywood's top designers. BBC2, 11.50am-1.20pm.

BATTLE OF MIDWAY (1976): Noisy and confused reconstruction of a key battle of the Second World War, with all-star cast led by Charlton Heston and Robert Mitchum. ITV, 1-3.25pm.

THE DESERT SONG (1953): A lively and faithful fourth film version of Sigmund Romberg's desert operetta, with Gordon MacRae and Kathryn Grayson. Channel 4, 2.30-4.30pm.

THREE LITTLE WORDS (1950): Minor, but pleasing, musical based on the lives of song writers Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby. Launches a season of lesser known Fred Astaire movies. BBC2, 3.50-5.30pm.

●● **FORBIDDEN PLANET (1956):** Ingenious and visually beautiful science fiction version of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Walter Pidgeon plays the Prospero-figure, conjuring up monsters, with Anne Francis in the Miranda part. BBC2, 6-7.35pm.

● **THE WOMAN IN RED (1984):** Gene Wilder (who also wrote and directed) as a married man who dreams of adultery, with Kelly Le Brock in the title role. Spirited American version of a French comedy. BBC1, 9.30-10.55pm. *British television première*

●● **THE BITTER TEA OF GENERAL YEN (1932):** See top of page.

TUESDAY

● **GOING MY WAY (1944):** There were Oscars galore for Leo McCarey's sentimental piece in which Bing Crosby as the young priest Father O'Malley spreads the Christian message in a New York slum. Channel 4, 9.35am-noon.

DIAMONDS ON WHEELS (1972): ITV's bumper Disney season opens with the adventures of young Robert (Peter Firth) whose rally car contains stolen diamonds. ITV, 11am-12.30pm.

TARZAN FINDS A SON (1939): Johnny Sheffield joins the team as "Boy", raised by Tarzan and Jane after surviving an air crash. BBC2, 12.35-1.55pm.

● **EL DORADO (1967):** Gunfighter John Wayne and drunken sheriff Robert Mitchum square up to a vicious cattle baron. Howard Hawks's relaxed Western may cover familiar ground (notably his earlier *Rio Bravo*) but all his professionalism is there and the stars enjoy themselves. ITV, 1-3.25pm.

THE WILDERNESS FAMILY (1975): A Los Angeles family abandons urban life for the wilds of the Rocky Mountains. A modern *Swiss Family Robinson*, directed at the young audience. BBC1, 2.15-3.50pm.

THE TWELVE CHAIRS (1969): Ron Moody leads a frenetic but tedious Mel Brooks comedy about the search for jewels hidden in an old armchair. Channel 4, 2.35-4.20pm.

ROBERTA (1935): An early teaming of Astaire and Rogers though top billing goes to Irene Dunne in this romance about an American who inherits a Paris fashion house. Thinnish musical redeemed by Jerome Kern songs. BBC2, 3.50-5.30pm.

● **MEET MR LUCIFER (1953):** Stanley Holloway playing a dual role in one of the less famous Ealing comedies, a mild satire on television. Channel 4, 5.30-7pm.

DEATH ON THE NILE (1978): Peter Ustinov as Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot solving the murder of an American heiress on the Nile cruiser. The scenery is ravishing, the plot almost impenetrable. BBC1, 9.30-11.45pm.

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES (1982): Jason Robards and Jonathan Pryce in Ray Bradbury's dark story of a carnival visiting a small American town. A rare film by British director Jack Clayton. Channel 4, 10-11.45pm.

● **THE FILE ON THELMA JORDON (1949):** Accused of murdering her aunt, Barbara Stanwyck falls in love with the prosecuting attorney, Wendell Corey. A twisty black thriller directed by a master of the genre, Robert Siodmak. BBC2, 12.10-1.50am.

WEDNESDAY

● **PARADE (1974):** The elegant and charming last film of Jacques Tati, made originally for Swedish television. He plays a circus ringmaster and performs his own classic mimes. Channel 4, 10.40am-noon.

TARZAN'S SECRET TREASURE (1941): In which Boy finds himself under threat first from a savage tribe and then a scientific expedition. BBC2, 12.10-1.30pm.

THE STORY OF VERNON AND IRENE CASTLE (1939): Astaire and Rogers play the pre-First World War husband and wife dance team in the last of their famous series of RKO musicals. A polished note on which to end. BBC2, 3.50-5.20pm.

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (1946): Likeable period romp in which Bob Hope plays a barber who gags his way into the court of Louis XV. Channel 4, 5-6.45pm.



●●● **Judy Garland about to follow the Yellow Brick Road in *The Wizard of Oz* (1939). It is an enduring piece of Hollywood magic with all the right ingredients — a fetching heroine, a raft of delightfully played character parts (Scarecrow, Tin Man, Cowardly Lion and Wicked Witch), rich Technicolor and marvellous songs, including the poignant and unforgettable "Over the Rainbow". A film for children of all ages. BBC2, 6-7.40pm.**

KELLY'S HEROES (1970): A relentless barrage of noise and destruction as Clint Eastwood leads his renegade army platoon in search of gold in occupied France. BBC1, 9.30-11.50pm.

Dim the house lights, settle in your seats and tune in to our critical guide to 55 movies playing on television during Christmas week. The ratings system, which should give plenty to argue about, is:
●●● not to be missed ●● highly recommended ● well worth watching

● **SORRY, WRONG NUMBER (1948):** Barbara Stanwyck pulling out all the stops as the bedridden neurotic who overhears a murder plot on a crossed telephone line and realises that she is the intended victim. BBC2, 10.40pm-12.10am.

CHRISTMAS EVE

WHEN THE NORTH WIND BLOWS (1974): Pleasant family film about Alaskan trappers who adopt two tiger cubs. BBC1, 11am-12.55pm.

THE SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON (1960): John Mills leads a genial Disney version of the famous children's story about a shipwrecked family. ITV, 1-3.20pm.

TARZAN'S NEW YORK ADVENTURE (1942): Tarzan and Jane leave the jungle for the Big Apple to recover their kidnapped boy. Johnny Weissmuller's last Tarzan film. BBC2, 1-2.10pm.

●●● **42nd STREET (1933):** Chorus girl Ruby Keeler gets her big chance when bitchy leading lady Bebe Daniels breaks an ankle. "You're going out a youngster, but you've got to come back a star!" orders harassed producer, Warner Baxter. Still a great film musical, with dazzling dance routines from Busby Berkeley. Channel 4, 2.50-4.30pm.

●● **THE SOUND OF MUSIC (1965):** The hills are alive with the sound of Julie Andrews and her young charges as they work their way through pretty Austrian locations and a Rodgers and Hammerstein score which most of us can now whistle backwards. BBC2, 3.15-6pm.

HIGH ROAD TO CHINA (1984): Dismal adventure-romance with Tom Selleck (from *Magnum*) as a drunken First World War pilot helping socialite Bess Armstrong to find her missing father. BBC1, 8.40-10.25pm. *British television première*

● **THE BOSTONIANS (1984):** Tasteful, decorative and slow-moving adaptation by the Merchant Ivory team of Henry James's novel of female emancipation. Madeleine Potter is the young feminist, Christopher Reeve her obsessive suitor. BBC2, 10.25pm-12.20am. *British television première.*

● **KING OF JAZZ (1930):** A rare chance to see a diverting early musical, shot in Technicolor and featuring the bandleader Paul Whiteman and, making his first film appearance, Bing Crosby. Channel 4, 11.30pm-1.20am.

● **THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW (1956):** The Barbara Stanwyck season ends with this superior Douglas Sirk weepie in which she is the old flame whose unexpected reappearance threatens Fred MacMurray's happy marriage. BBC2, 12.20-1.40am.



●●● **San Francisco detective James Stewart has no head for heights and is discomforted by two versions of Kim Novak in Alfred Hitchcock's complex and teasing 1958 thriller, *Vertigo*, which is doing the rounds again after many years out of circulation. Assigned to shadow a friend's suicidal wife, Stewart falls in love with her, sees her apparently plunge to her death and then encounters her double. Most ITV regions, 12.30-2.50am.**

CHRISTMAS DAY

THE CHEATERS (1945): Joseph Schildkraut as a down-and-out actor who spreads the Christmas message among a selfish family. BBC2, 9.10-10.35am.

● **WHITE CHRISTMAS (1954):** The old seasonal standby with Danny Kaye, Bing Crosby and lots of Irving Berlin hits. BBC2, 10.35am-12.30pm.

●● **DUMBO (1941):** Delightful feature-length Disney cartoon about the little circus elephant. ITV, 11.30am-12.40pm.

THE SPY WHO LOVED ME (1977): Tired addition to the James Bond series, with 007 Roger Moore pitted against megalomaniac Curt Jurgens. ITV, 12.40-3pm.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND (1951): Decent Disney cartoon version despite the American accents. ITV, 3.10-4.30pm.

●● **LA TRAVIATA (1982):** Franco Zeffirelli's vibrant film of the Verdi opera, a visual and musical feast. With Teresa Stratas and Placido Domingo. BBC2, 3.10-4.55pm.

● **INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM (1984):** See top of page.

BEDKNOBS AND BROOMSTICKS (1971): Three cockney children are put in charge of a witch in the Disney follow-up to *Mary Poppins*. ITV, 4.35-6.45pm.

FIVE DAYS ONE SUMMER (1982): A 1930s romance in the Alps for middle-aged doctor Sean Connery. Fred Zinnemann's film displays the director's usual craftsmanship but is ultimately stronger on scenery than drama. Channel 4, 6.45-8.50pm.

● **TERMS OF ENDEARMENT (1983):** Five Oscars for this sentimental comedy about a gutsy widow (Shirley MacLaine) in collision with suitor Jack Nicholson and married daughter Debra Winger. BBC1, 10.45pm-12.55am. *British television première*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

SEMORDNILAP
(c) It is the reverse of palindromes.

EAGRE
(c) A sudden tidal flood, from Medieval Latin *higra*.

CHICHEVACHE
(a) A medieval monster, said to feed on patient and chaste wives, and accordingly very thin.

SHERMACH
(c) A tangled mass of hair, also a wimp, from Aberdeenshire, connected with Gaelic *siomain*, a rope of twisted straw or hay.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES: 5.15-6.20pm Sports News Wales NORTHERN IRELAND: 4.55-5.05pm Northern Ireland Results 5.15-5.20 Inside Ulster Newsline 1.30-1.35am Northern Ireland News ENGLAND: 5.15-5.20pm South and East (London)—Sport. South and East (Plymouth)—Spotlight News and Sport. All other English regions—Regional News and Sport.

ANGLIA As Scottish except-1.30am-1.40pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas.

BORDER As Scottish except-11.30am-1.40pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 12.05am Alfred Hitchcock Presents 12.35 Closedown.

CENTRAL As Scottish except-1.00am Golden Antelope 11.30 Film: Night They Saved Christmas 12.05am Prisoner Cell Block H 1.00 Film: Sands of the Kalahari 3.15 News, Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As Scottish except-1.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 12.05am Sledge Hammer 12.50-1.00 Fun in the Sun 4.00 Company, Closedown.

GRANADA As Scottish except-1.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 11.05 Big Match 11.55 Tom Jones 12.55am Film: Swiss Conspiracy 2.30 America's Top 10 3.00 Closedown.

HTV WEST As Scottish except-11.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 5.05-5.30 Easy Street 12.05am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except-Ceefax variations.

LONDON As Scottish except-11.30am Frocks on the Box 12.00-1.00pm The Celebrity Rally Sprint 12.05am Hunter 1.00 Night Network 4.00 The Gambler 5.40-6.00 Christmas Cartoon Time

TSW As Scottish except-11.30am-1.05pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 5.05 Newsport 5.10-5.30 Mickey Mouse 12.05am Midnight Legends 12.35 Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As Scottish except-11.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 4.00pm Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As Scottish except-11.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 12.05am Tales From the Darkside 12.35 Poetry of the People 12.45-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As Scottish except-11.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 4.55-5.30 Sports Results 12.05am Newstime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As Scottish except-11.30am-1.00pm Film: Night They Saved Christmas 11.05 Big Match 11.55 Tom Jones 12.55am Film: The Last Ninja 2.35 Jobfinder 3.35 Closedown.

S4C Starts:3.45am What the Papers Say 10.00 Years Ahead 10.45 Mavis on Four 11.15 Time to Remember* 11.45 Countdown 12.15pm Scotland's Story 12.45 Hiwaetha 2.15 World of Animation 2.35 Film: Lost Horizon* 5.00 Cubatico—Valley of Death 6.00 Right to Reply 6.30 Household Pliems 7.00 Kadleston Hall 7.30 Newyddion 7.50 Fflitach 8.20 Awyr Las 8.25 Y Mass Chwarae 10.30 Golden Girls 11.00 Late Night With David Letterman 11.50 Tennis 12.50am Film: Welcome to LA 2.45 Closedown.

SUNDAY

BBC1 WALES 12.15-12.20pm News of Wales NORTHERN IRELAND 12.35-12.55pm Tomorrow's Farm 12.15-12.20am Northern Ireland News
BBC2

ANGLIA As Scottish except-9.25am-9.30 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Link 1.15 Bioscope Bygones 1.30 News 1.35-2.00 Farming Diary 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am-1.00 King's Singers at Wells

BORDER As Scottish except-9.25am-9.30 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Farming Outlook 1.30 News 1.35 Cartoon 1.45-2.00 Link 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Closedown.

CENTRAL As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm News 1.05 Cencoi Post 1.15 Link 1.30-2.00 Here and Now 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Prisoner Cell Block H 1.25 Donahue 2.25 Film: Last Chapter 3.00 News, Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Starting Point 1.00pm Link 1.15 Les Francais Chez-Vous 1.30-2.00 Farm Focus 12.30am-1.00 Benson 3.15 Company, Closedown.

GRANADA As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Cartoon 1.00pm Members Only 1.05 Action Line 1.05 This is Your Right 1.25 Aap Kaa Hak 1.40-2.00 Link 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WEST As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm The Roary 1.30 Cartoon 1.45-2.00 Link 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except-1.00pm-1.45 Cup Rugby

LONDON As Scottish except-9.25am-9.30 Wake Up London 1.00pm Police 5 1.10 Link 1.30-2.00 The smurfs 2.30 Football: Derby County v Tottenham Hotspur 4.30-5.10 Sunday Sunday 12.30am Sesame 1.00 Night Network 3.15 Film: Cast a Giant Shadow 5.40-6.00 Christmas Cartoon Time

TSW As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Look and See 1.00pm Tightrope 1.10 Farming News 1.40-2.00 Link 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Sunday Review, Closedown.

TVS As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Cartoon 1.00pm Link 1.15 Action! 1.30-2.00 Farm Focus 12.30am-1.00 Benson 3.15 Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Hello Sunday 1.00pm Farming Outlook 1.30 Sharp's 1.40-2.00 Link 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am At the Works 1.00 Epilogue 1.10-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Ask Anne 1.15 Link 1.30-2.00 Farming Ulster 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Sports Results 12.35 Newstime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As Scottish except-9.25am-9.35 Cartoon 1.00pm-1.10 Cartoon 1.25-2.00 Farming Diary 4.30 Disney at Christmas 4.40 Christmas Past 5.40-6.10 Bullseye 12.30am Five Minutes 12.35 Jobfinder 1.35 Closedown.

S4C Starts:9.00am Hafoc 10.00 World This Week 11.00 Gnostics—The Debate 12.00 Watkins 1.00pm Arwyddion Fferdd 1.30 Dick Spanner 2.00 Film: Palm Beach Story* 3.40 Thirty Million Letters* 4.15 Piggybank 5.15 Grandpa Hens and Now 6.00 American Football 7.20 Newyddion 7.30 Rhaglen Hywel Gwynfryn 8.10 Pobol y Cwm 9.40 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 9.10 Hel Straeon 9.40 Cristnogaeth Cerrig 10.40 St Elsewhere 11.25 Cartoon Theatre of Dr Gaz 12.00 Tennis 12.45am Close



Join Lou, Ian, Kathy, Arthur and the rest of Albert Square for a Christmas Day edition of EastEnders: BBC1, 3.10pm.

TELEVISION

The early indications from the bookmakers, William Hill, are that the winner in the battle of the Christmas Day ratings could be the Russ Abbot Christmas Show (BBC1, 5.45-6.25pm). It is quoted at 2-1, with another BBC show, Only Fools and Horses (BBC1, 6.25-7.25pm) close behind at 9-4. But Cilla Black and her Christmas Blind Date (ITV, 6.45-7.30pm) is in with a shout at 3-1.

Surprisingly, perhaps, Hill's have Denis Norden and his It'll Be Alright on the Christmas Night (ITV, 8-9pm) edging out both the other main channel's mid-evening offerings, Christmas Night with the Two Ronnies (BBC1, 7.25-8.15pm) and Miss Marple: 8.15 From Paddington (BBC1, 8.15-10.05pm). If this happens, ITV could gain revenge for last year's Christmas night trouncing.

Catch a Fallen Star (BBC2, Wed, 10-10.40pm) is a 40 Minutes film about Jessie Matthews. Dirk Bogarde reckons that she was more talented than Ginger Rogers. A leading lady of British film musicals in the 1930s, she spent the later part of her career in the radio soap, Mrs Dale's Diary. Another star is profiled at length in Garbo (BBC2, Christmas Day, 8.35-10.35pm) as a curtain-raiser to a BBC2 season of her films.

More than 100 Victorian love letters discovered in a Yorkshire barn in 1976 are the raw material of Brian Thompson's drama-documentary Paper Kisses (BBC2, Christmas Eve). Written by a middle-aged spinster to a tenant farmer, the letters are both a record of an ill-fated love affair and a portrait of two ordinary people in the 1890s.

Elizabeth Welch celebrates a stage career going back more than 60 years in Keep Love Alive (Channel 4, Tues, 8.30-10pm), a film by Stephen Garrett and the Film Critic of this newspaper, David Robinson. Reminiscences are interspersed with performances of classic songs from Porter, Berlin, Gershwin and Kern.

Paul Simon turns up twice on Channel 4. Filmed in Zimbabwe, Graceland: African Concert (Wed, 10-11.10pm) recalls highlights from his African tour while Everybody Say Yeah! (Christmas Day, 8.50-10pm) is a feast of American gospel music

The television Christmas would not be complete without Raymond Briggs's animated fable, The Snowman. Channel 4 is showing it on Christmas Day (5.25-6pm).

RADIO

Among the most popular programmes on Radio 4 last Christmas were the dramatizations of classic crime stories. Reluctant to waste a good idea, Radio 4 has come up with another batch — seven plays under the general title of Crime At Christmas.

They start on Christmas Eve with Agatha Christie's most famous whodunit, The Murder of Roger Ackroyd (Radio 4, 7.45-9.15pm), with John Moffatt as Hercule Poirot. The Dorothy L. Sayers mystery, Whose Body? follows on Boxing Day and the other writers represented include Freeman Wills Crofts, Michael Gilbert and Josephine Tey.

In Humbug! (Radio 4, Tues, 8-8.30pm) Brian Sibley looks at the genesis of Dickens's A Christmas Carol and tries to explain the appeal of a story that thanks to film and television adaptations may be more widely known than read.

The programme features versions of Scrooge by, among others, Orson Welles, Alec Guinness, Walter Matthau and the Goons. Sellers, Secombe and Milligan can also be heard on Christmas Day in a vintage edition of The Goon Show (Radio 4-4.30pm) called The International Christmas Pudding.

Brian Sibley is also the presenter of The Brick That Created a World (Radio 4, tomorrow, 8.30-9pm), visiting Billund in Denmark to trace the history of Lego. It is one of the century's most successful toys and adults are using it, too, for management courses.

The 50th anniversary of Maurice Ravel's death is marked on Radio 3 with a wide-ranging festival of his music. To introduce it, there is a dramatized feature by Roger Nichols, An Afternoon With Ravel (Radio 3, tomorrow, 5.05-6.05pm), which imagines an interview between the composer and one of his students.

A worthwhile repeat is Radio 3's much praised The Octave of the Nativity, 10 liturgical reconstructions of Church Festivals. They begin on Christmas Eve with Matins and the First Mass of Christmas (Radio 3, 10.30pm-2.35am), as it might have been celebrated in the Royal Household Chapel of Queen Mary in 1557, and continue into the New Year.

Another repeat, of Harold Pinter's play Family Voices (Radio 3, Tues, 5.10-5.45pm), marks the 80th birthday of its star, Dame Peggy Ashcroft. Finally, as always, A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is broadcast live from King's College Chapel, Cambridge (Christmas Eve, 3-4.30pm).

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

هكذا من الاصل

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

SATURDAY

● Even before the credit titles have had a chance to roll, our portly funster is into jokes about the Japanese language and Japanese seafood. He describes Tokyo as "looking like what happened to Birmingham after they had finished improving it". In other words, **Clive James in Japan** (ITV, 10.05pm) runs true to form. His basic gag is his inability to speak the language, which is a cue for repeatedly getting lost in the middle of Tokyo and having fun at the expense of the natives. If it is all a shade patronising, it is also very funny. Along the way, there are some delicious vignettes of the hi-tech society, as when James turns up in the foyer of a big office block and is greeted by a female receptionist who is a robot. Clasping the hand that has so long fed him, he actually appears in a television game show, though since the show is ridiculous to start with, James's attempts to lard the humour seem redundant. He also samples the dubious comforts of the "capsule" hotel, which offers coffin-sized bedrooms to Japanese businessmen who go out on the town and miss the last train home. Part two is being shown on Boxing Day.

Peter Waymark

CHOICE



Mud, mud, glorious mud: Clive James learns how Orientals relax in his two-part series. Part one, ITV, 10.05pm



Melvyn Bragg finds out about life on the Isle of Man in Sunday night's Channel Four documentary, at 7.15

CHOICE

● "One of the charms of the Isle of Man", says Melvyn Bragg, "is its detachment from the present. There's still a feeling of the Forties and Fifties". The time-warp goes back a lot further than that, what with butchers still putting sawdust on their floors and garages displaying pre-war Castrol signs and steam trains and horse-drawn trams. In **Land of Mann** (Channel 4, 7.15pm) — Mann is the ancient spelling — Bragg does a television version of *Down Your Way*, interviewing local people about the island's history and working in references to tailless cats and income tax at 20p in the £. Bragg mentions that picture postcards are still censored. It would be interesting to know why, and by whom. On a more serious level, more might have been said about the island's use as an internment camp for enemy aliens during both the World Wars. We gather the Isle of Man is no longer the tourist attraction it once was, but is this really because people are worried about the nuclear fall-out from Sellafield? Bragg wonders whether the island can continue to maintain its privileged independence, but his only answer is a quip about having three legs to stand on.

P.W.

BBC1

8.20 Roobarb (r). **8.25** Saturday Starts Here with Comers (r). **8.40** CluckleVision **9.00** The Muppet Babies.
9.30 Going Live! The guests include Rick Astley, Curiosity Killed the Cat, Pet Shop Boys and Christopher Biggins. **12.12** Weather.
12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): **12.20** Cricket: Pakistan v England; *12.25 Football Focus*; **12.45, 1.15** and **1.50** Racing from Ascot; **1.00** News; **1.05, 2.05** and **3.10** Rugby League focus and coverage of the second semifinal of the John Player Special Trophy; **1.30** Motor Racing from Brands Hatch; **2.55** and **4.25** Skiing: from Yugoslavia and Italy; **3.50** Half-times; **3.55** Show Jumping from Olympia; **4.40** Final score.
5.05 News with Moira Stuart. Weather. **5.15** Regional news/ sport.
5.20 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time.
5.45 Telly Addicts. The Chinery family from Dorset and the Brustads of Gwent meet in the final. Presented by Noel Edmonds.
6.15 My Family and Other Animals. Last episode. (Ceefax)
6.45 Bob's Full House. Bingo quiz game presented by Bob Monkhouse. (Ceefax)
7.25 Hi-de-Hi! It's circus *time at Maplins and Ted* loses his heart to a camper (r). (Ceefax)
8.10 Casualty. A woman dies and the casualty staff are accused of negligence. Will the coroner agree? (Ceefax)
9.00 News and sport. With Moira Stuart. Weather.
9.15 Cagney and Lacey. *The two women police* officers enter the esoteric world of rock music when investigating the theft of a video from a night club. Starring Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly. (Ceefax)
10.00 Stanley Baxter's Picture Annual. Superb comedy impressions: The guest is Lesley Collier (r). (Ceefax)
10.50 International Show Jumping from Olympia featuring the Modern Alarms Puissance.
11.55 Film: The Anderson Tapes. (see facing page)
1.30 Weather.

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax.
11.00 Carols for Christmas from St David's Hall, Cardiff. With the BBC Welsh Chorus conducted by John Hugh Thomas, the Fanfare Trumpeters of the Welsh Guards and organist Huw Tregelles Williams. The commentator is Chris Morgan.
12.05 The Sky at Night. Patrick Moore talks to Andrew Murray of the Royal Greenwich *Observatory about* Hipparcos (r).
12.25 Film: Tarzan the Apeman. (see facing page)
2.00 Film: Time Masters (1982). An animated science fiction adventure based on a novel by Stefan Wul and directed by René Laloux.
3.20 Fred Astaire: Putting on His Top Hat. This first of two documentary tributes to the late entertainer features clips from his *Top Hat, Swing Time* and *The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle*. With contributions from Gene Kelly, Ginger Rogers, Pandro S.Berman, Hal Born and Hermes Pan
4.05 International Bridge Club, presented by Clare Harrison. With Tony Forrester, Sami Kehela, Zia Mahmood and P.O.Sundelin.
4.35 Film: The Slipper and the Rose. (Ceefax) (see facing page)
6.55 NewsView. Moira Stuart with the day's news; Richard *Whitmore reviews the* week's news in pictures with subtitles. Weather.
7.25 Beethoven's Missa Solemnis from St David's Hall, Cardiff. Sir Colin Davis conducts the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, the Ardwyn Singers, the BBC Welsh Chorus and the *Cardiff Polyphonic* Choir, with soloists Margaret Price (soprano), Alfreda Hodgson (contralto), Keith Lewis (tenor) and Stafford Dean (bass).
9.15 Film: Le cinéma dans les yeux (1967). A documentary featuring some 70 clips from films featured in the 40 year history of the Cannes Film Festival. Compiled by Gilles Jacob, the current director of the Festival.
10.50 Film: When Father Was Away on Business. (see facing page) Ends at **1.05.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am includes news and weather **7.30** The Wide Awake Club for children.
9.25 *No 73. Entertainment* for the young **11.00** The Roxy (r). **11.30** Frocks on the Box (r).
12.00 The Celebrity Rally Sprint. A three-discipline rally event from Brands Hatch.
1.00 News **1.05** Saint & Greavsie. Ian and Jimmy review the week's football news and look forward to the *weekend's programme* **1.35** Wrestling from Wallasey Town Hall, Cheshire.
2.15 International Athletics. The HFC/IAC Cross-Country in the grounds of Cardiff Castle.
3.00 Gymnastics. The Kraft International from Alexandra Palace, London.
4.45 Results Service.
5.00 News.
5.05 A.L.F. Adventures of an alien life form in suburban America.
5.30 The A-Team. After crash-landing on a Polynesian island Murdock is regarded as a king by the natives.
6.25 3-2-1. Game show presented by Ted Rogers. The guests include Bernie Winters, Gareth Hunt and Pat Coombs.
7.30 Blind Date. Boy meets girl show presented by Cilla Black. (Oracle)
8.15 A Royal Gala in aid of the Prince's Trust from the London Palladium. Among those performing before the Prince and Princess of Wales are Rowan Atkinson, Art *Garfunkel, Elton John,* Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones and Sarah Brightman.
9.45 News and sport.
10.05 Clive James in Japan. (see Choice)
11.05 Tom Jones' Born to be Me. A musical autobiography of the Welsh singer.
12.05 Hunter. The *investigator and his* assistant, McCall, investigate a break-in at the house of a newswoman who received a call at her office by a man who said he had just commited a murder.
1.00 Night Network includes Mick Brown and Steve Davis reviewing the latest videos and Emma Freud talking to actor Nick Conway.
4.00 The Gambler. The second and final part of the drama starring Kenny Rogers.
5.40 Christmas Cartoon Time. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

9.35 Sam. The life and thoughts of an elderly American farmer (r).
10.00 Moneyspinner (r) **10.30** Scotland's Story. Part 22 (r). **11.00** Old Country (r). **11.30** Dancin' Days (r).
12.00 Film: The Big Lift (b/w). (see facing page)
2.15 Movie Museum: Lizzies of the Field (b/w). A 1924 comedy silent about jalopies.
2.30 The Importance of Being Earnest. Oscar Wilde's comedy of *manners starring Dame* Wendy Hiller in the role of the formidable Lady Bracknell (r). (Orsicle)
4.30 Countdown. A quarter-final encounter between the number two and seventh seeds.
5.05 Brookside (r). (Oracle)
6.00 Right to Reply. Should alcoholic drink advertising be banned from television? Among those taking part in the discussion are representatives of advertisers, brewers, lobbyists, the IBA and the Home Office working group on young people and alcohol.
6.30 News summary and weather followed by People Get Ready. A programme of gospel music. Among those appearing are Beverley Wint, David Copeland and Junior Robinson
7.30 Living Legend — Raj Kapoor. A documentary profile of India's leading film maker/actor Raj Kapoor.
8.30 Piggybank. A thriller starring Louis Mahoney *as an African* detective sent to Britain to investigate what looks like a case of gun-running. But his investigations lead him into conflict with the British police, the City establishment and his own government.
9.30 A Fine Romance. Domestic comedy series *starring Judi Dench* and Michael Williams (r). (Oracle)
10.00 St Elsewhere. Westphall and Novino attend the annual Doctor of the Year Awards and greet the dawn together.
11.00 Late Night with David Letterman. Award-winning American chat and music show.
11.50 Tennis: The Davis Cup Final. Highlights of the doubles match between Sweden and India in Gothenburg.
12.50 Film: Welcome to LA. (see facing page) Ends at **2.45.**

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the half-hour until **12.30pm**, then at **2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30** and **12.00** midnight
6.00am Simon Mayo **8.00** Peter Powell **10.00** Mike Read **1.00pm** Adrian Juste **2.00** The Stereo Sequence. Including **2.00-3.00** My Top Ten (Andy Peebles talks to Jonathan Ross) **4.00-5.00** The New American Chart Show (Laura Gross) **6.30-7.00** In Concert (featuring Terence Trend D'Arby) **7.30** Robbie Vincent **10.00-12.00** Nicky Campbell. **VHF** Stereo Radios 1 and 2: **4.00am** As Radio 2 **1.00pm** As Radio 1 **7.30-4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
News on the hour until **1.00pm** then at **3.00, 6.00, 7.00** and hourly from **10.00.**
4.00am Dave Bussey **6.00** Steve Truelove **9.05** David Jacobs **9.00** Sounds of the 60s (Steve Ellis) **10.00** Michael Aspel **12.00** Album Time **1.00pm** Radio Active **1.30** Sport on 2. Includes Racing from Ascot. Rugby Union (Midlands v North and London v South and South West). **5.00** Sports Report **6.00** Brain of Sport 1987 **6.30** Look What They've Done to my Song **7.00** Beat the Record **7.30** James Galway's Christmas Collection **9.30** Christmas String Sound **10.05** Martin Kelner **12.05am** Dave Gelly **1.00** Bill Rennells **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times given in GMT
6.00am Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 From the Weeklies 7.45 Network UK 8.00 News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 News 9.09 Review of British Press 9.15 World Today 9.30 Financial News followed by Sports Round-Up 9.45 Personal View 10.00 News 10.01 Here's Humph! 10.15 Letter From America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 A-Z of Hollywood 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 Multitrack 3 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.45 Good Books 2.00 News 2.01 Album Time 2.30 Sportsworld 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Sportsworld 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Sportsworld 5.00 News 5.01 Sportsworld 5.15 English By Radio 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heure Absolue 8.00 News 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News 9.01 Tech Talk 9.15 A Mozart Miscellany 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 News 10.09 From Our Own Correspondent 10.30 New Ideas 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Nature Notebook 11.30 Anything Goes 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Philharmonia Chorus 1.00 News 1.01 Play of the Week: Get Santa 2.00 News 2.09 Sunday Papers 2.15 The Man of Property 2.30 Album Time 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 From Our Own Correspondent 3.30 After Henry 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Six Four Eight 4.35 Financial News 4.45 Morgenmagazin 5.45 Letter From America.

Regional TV: on facing page

BBC1

8.55 Play School **9.15** Articles of Faith **9.30** This is the Day from a viewer's home in *Holywood, Co. Down.*
10.00 Bazaar (r). **10.30** Talking Business (r). **10.55** Tele-France (r). **11.20** A vous la France! French for beginners course.
11.45 See Hear. Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* adapted for the hearing impaired.
12.35 Farming. Claire Powell investigates reluctant bachelor farmers; and Les Cottington reports on the work of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. **12.58** Weather.
1.00 News
1.05 The High Chaparral (r). **1.50** Cartoon **2.00** EastEnders (r) (Ceefax)
3.00 Open Air Christmas Preview. A preview of the week's television on BBC.
3.50 International Show Jumping from the Grand Hall, Olympia.
4.50 Antiques Roadshow. Highlights of the programme's first 10 years. (Ceefax)
5.35 Vanity Fair. The final episode and there is a tearful reunion between Amelia and Becky. (Ceefax)
6.10 Lifeline. Cliff Michelmore and Maggie Philbin with the latest charity news; Duncan Goodhew appeals on behalf of the *British Paraplegic Sports Society.*
6.20 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.
6.35 *Songs of Praise* from St Andrew's Wesley Church, Vancouver, BC. (Ceefax)
7.15 Last of the Summer Wine. Seymour decides that traditional Christmas festivities should be restored (r). (Ceefax)
7.50 Film: Jaws. (Ceefax) (see facing page)
9.50 *News with Moira* Stuart. Weather.
10.50 Everyman: Paradise in Peril. Martin Young talks to Brigadier Rabuka and other Fijian political and religious leaders about the island's religious and racial divides.
10.45 International Show Jumping from Olympia featuring the Crosse and Blackwell Grand Prix.
11.35 The Secret Life of Paintings. Lady Wedgwood describes "The Madonna and Chancellor Rolin" by Jan Van Eyck (r).
12.15 Weather.

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax.
9.15 Now on Two begins with Janosch's Story Time **9.40** *Whirlybirds (r).* **10.05** Odysseus — the Greatest Hero of Them All (r). **10.20** The Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show **10.40** Now It's You. Junior *Points of View* **10.45** Blue Peter Omnibus (r). **11.35** Aliens in the Family. Episode five (r).
12.00 Windmill. Chris Serle selects clips from programmes on a theme of journeys. **1.00** No Limits (r).
2.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of the final matches in the Toshiba Divisional Championship; and the Schweppes Welsh Cup match between Pontarddulais and Pontypool.
2.40 100 Great Sporting Moments. The 1971 Wimbledon quarter-final match between Ken Rosewall and Cliff Richey (r).
3.00 Film: Treasure Island. (Ceefax) (see facing page)
4.35 The Story of Afanti. A Chinese cartoon about an Oriental Robin Hood (r).
5.05 Music in Camera. *Heinz Holliger* and Maurice Bourgue perform works for two oboes by W.F.Bach and Zelenka.
5.45 The Great Philosophers. A.J.Ayer discusses Frege, Russell and Modern Logic. Presented by Bryan Magee. (Ceefax)
6.30 Ski Sunday. Slalom *and giant slalom* action from Kranjska Gora in northern Yugoslavia and Piancavallo in the Italian Dolomites.
7.15 The Travel Show. In this Christmas special edition Jackie Spreckley visits Eilat on the Red Sea and Matthew Collins braves Benidorm.
7.50 *The Natural World:* Okavango — Jewel of the Kalahari. This final programme of the series examines the people of Botswana. (Ceefax)
8.45 American Film Institute Salute to Barbara Stanwyck introduced by Jane Fonda. A tribute to the octogenarian star.
9.35 It's My Pleasure. The late Irene Handl talks to Desmond Lynam about her favourite television memories (r).
10.05 Film: Ragtime. (Ceefax) (see facing page) Ends at **12.40.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am.
9.25 Wake up London **9.35** He-Man and the Masters of the Universe (r). **10.00** *The Adventures of* Black Beauty (r).
11.00 Morning Worship from the Reform Synagogue, Newcastle upon Tyne.
12.00 Weekend World. The Government's funding of the NHS is discussed by Matthew Parris and a group of Tory backbenchers. **1.00** Police 5 **1.10** Link. Magazine programme for disabled viewers and their families **1.30** The Smurfs (r).
2.00 The Search for St Francis. Artist John Miller examines the work of Franciscans in modern society.
2.30 The Big Match Live. Derby County v Tottenham Hotspur.
4.30 Sunday Sunday. Gloria Hunniford's guests are Nicholas Lyndhurst, Rowan Atkinson and a host of panto stars including Wendy Richard, Anita Dobson and Terry Scott.
5.10 Christmas Past. The story of Christmas traditions.
6.10 News.
6.15 Carols from Winchester. Martin Neary, Winchester Cathedral's music director, conducts the Cathedral choir and congregation in carols old and new.
7.15 North and South, Book II. Continuing the drama serial, set at the time of the American Civil War, about the destinies of the Hazard family of *Pennsylvania and the* Mains from South Carolina.
8.45 News.
9.00 The Beiderbecke Tapes. The second and concluding part of the comedy drama serial. (Oracle)
10.30 The South Bank Show — Arts Review '87. Melvyn Bragg *introduces excerpts from* the best of the year's theatre, music and the arts.
12.30 Benson. American comedy series (r).
1.00 Night Network includes The Who in concert and a performance by Sandie Shaw.
3.15 Film: Cast a Giant Shadow (1966) starring Kirk Douglas. The true story of an American colonel who became a general in the Israeli Army. Directed by Melville Shavelson.
5.40 Christmas Cartoon Time. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

9.25 Movie Mahal (colour and b/w). Part 14 of the story of the film industry in India.
10.00 The World This Week examines the aftermath of the South Korea general election; and violence in the Gaza strip. Plus, President Carter's defence secretary, Harold Brown, discusses "Star Wars".
11.00 Pob's Programme. Children's puppet series **11.30** Dick Spanner. *Animated adventures of* an inefficient private investigator **12.00** The Waltons.
1.00 Treasure Hunt Christmas Special in the Holy Land (r).
2.00 Film: The Scarlet Pimpernel (1982) starring Anthony Andrews, Jane Seymour and Ian McKellen. A made-for-television version of Baroness Orczy's adventure story about the English nobleman who risks his life to save French aristocrats threatened by the Revolution. Directed by Clive Donner.
4.40 Chinese Theatre. This documentary includes extracts from romantic tales, comedy and mime.
5.00 News summary and weather followed by The Money Slaves. A behind-the-scenes view of bankers at work at Credit Suisse First Boston during the October week of the "Big Crash".
5.45 Jole de Vivre (b/w). An animated film made in 1934 by Anthony Gross.
6.00 American Football. The Pittsburg Steelers at San Diego Chargers.
7.15 Land of Mann. (see Choice)
8.15 An Idea of Europe. The final part of Professor Richard Hoggart's series on Europe's image and status in the world. (Oracle)
8.45 The Man who Mistook His Wife for a Hat. An opera by Michael Nyman based on a case study of writer/ neurologist Oliver Sacks about a man who is able to see but unable to recognize what he sees. With Emile Belcourt, Patricia Hooper and Frederick Westcott.
10.10 Film: Wing and a Prayer (b/w). (see facing page)
12.00 Tennis: Davis Cup Final. The remaining two singles of the match between Sweden and India. Ends at **12.45.**

Radio 3

6.55 Weather **7.00** News
8.05 Morning Concert: Smetana (Dance of the Comedians: Leipzig Gewandhaus), Barber (Adagio for strings: Monte Carlo PO), Gershwin (Variations on I Got Rhythm: Weisssenberg, piano, with Berlin PO), Mainerio (Schiarazula saltarello: Ungaresca: with Ragossnig, lute), *Dvorak (Mazurka in E* minor: Luca, violin, with St Louis SO), Ibert (Divertissement: Academy of St Martin-in-Fields)
9.00 World Service News
9.10 Concert (contd): Stravinsky (Scherzo fantastique: Montreal SO), Mendelssohn (Variations sérieuses, Op 54: Perahia, piano), Mozart (Das Traumbild, and Die kleine Spinnerin: Ameling, soprano), Villa-Lobos (Choros No 1: Santos, guitar), Rimsky-Korsakov (Snow Maiden: Rotterdam PO, with Roberta Alexander, soprano) **9.00** News
9.05 Record Review: includes Michael Kennedy's guide to recordings of Vaughan Williams's London Symphony
10.15 Stereo Release: Stravinsky (*Le Chant de* rossignol: Montreal SO), Sibelius (Pohjola's Daughter: Philharmonia), Stravinsky (Four Studies: Montreal SO), Martinu (Symphony No 3: Bamberg SO)
11.35 BBC Welsh SO, under Owain Arwel Hughes, with BBC Welsh and Symphony Chorus and other choirs, Janet Baker and David Mells. Elgar (In the South overture; and Sea Pictures), and Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* **1.00** News
1.05 Stamitz Quartet play Janacek's Quartet No 2, and Dvorak's Op 96
2.00 Claudio Arrau (piano): Beethoven's Sonata in E flat Op 81a; and Sonata in D, Op 10 No 3. Also Liszt works from Années de pèlerinage
3.25 Advent at Winchester: Winchester Baroque Ensemble, and soloists Emily van Evera, Elizabeth Priday, David Hurley, William Kendall and Simon Keenleyside. Bach's Cantata No 140; and Scheidt's *In dulci jubilo;* Wie schon leuhtet der Morgenstern
4.15 Colin Davis Conducts: Haydn's Symphony No 93 (Amsterdam Concertgebouw), and Reger's A Ballet Suite (Bavarian Radio SO)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests: with Peter Clayton
5.45 Critics' Forum: includes comment on The Marksman, on BBC1; and The Literary Guide to the Bible
6.35 Schubert: Edith Vogel (piano) plays Moments musicaux, D 780
7.10 Carmen: Opera North's production of the Bizet opera. With Cynthia Buchan (title role), Dennis O'Neil (Don José), Marie Slorach (Micaela), Adrian Clarke (Morales) and John Hall (Zuniga) in the cast. Alexander Rahbari conducts English Northern Philharmonia. With Chorus of Opera North. Acts one and two. Acts three and four begin at **9.05** after a feature about this production. The contributors include Cynthia Buchan and Dennis O'Neill.
10.15 Iberia: Albeniz piano works, played by Alicia de Larrocha
10.30 Bach on the Lute: Nigel North plays the Suite in G minor, BWV 995
10.55 Beethoven: BBC Scottish SO under George Hurst play the Violin Concerto, with Ernst Kovacic, soloists. Also, the Coriolan overture
11.57 News **12.00** Closedown
4.55 am. Day four of the Third Test, Pakistan v England, in *Karachi. Until* **11.35am.** ON MW and VHF, but MW only from **6.55am**

Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) Stereo on VHF
5.55 Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming **6.50** Prayer **6.55** Weather
7.00 Today, incl **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25** Sport **7.30, 8.30** News **7.40, 8.47** Today's Papers **7.45** In Perspective **7.55, 8.58** Weather **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News
9.05 Sport on 4: with Cliff Morgan (includes comment on the Test and Davis Cup tennis)
9.30 Breakaway: Bernard Falk reports on holidays and travel
10.00 News; Loose Ends: hosted by Ned Sherrin
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster: Robert Carvel and the team of presenters recall moments of drama and humour in the parliamentary year 1987
11.30 From Our Own Corrasspondent
12.00 Money Box: presented by Louise Botting
12.25 The News Quiz: Barry Took chairs the topical quiz with teams led by Alan Coren and Ian Hislop **12.55** Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions?: Joining Jonathan Dimbleby are Lord Hailsham, John Mortimer QC, Jean Rook (Daily Express) and Peter Jenkins (Independent). From Bermondsey, London (r)
1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Second Edition: Gillian Reynolds and guests discuss some of Radio 4's magazine programmes
3.00 News; Play: Aristophanes Against the World by Martyn Wade. Comedy about Ancient Greece. Cast includes Clive Merrison as Aristophanes, and Robert Lang (r)(s)
4.15 The Quiet Pipers: Richard Kelly on the history and present revival of the Northumbrian small pipes
4.30 Science Now: Peter Evans reports on the British Psychological Society's recent winter conference
5.00 Conversation Piece: Sue MacGregor talks to Dr Pauline Cutting about her life and work in, and out of, the Palestinian refugee camps (r)
5.25 Week Ending: satirical view of the week's news **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 News; Incl Sports Round-Up
6.25 Citizens: Omnibus edition of The Launching of William (s)
7.10 Stop the Week: with Robert Robinson. Includes a song from Instant Sunshine
7.45 Saturday-Night Theatre: Crisp and Even Brightly; by Alick Rowe, with Timothy West as Good King Wenceslas, and James Holland as the Page (s)
9.00 Music in Mind: Richard Baker presents a selection of words and music
9.50 Ten to Ten: reading, hymn and reflection led by Frank Topping **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The Saturday Feature: Too Dirty for the Windmill... Ned Sherrin introduces a selection of Caryl Brahms' memoirs, jokes and anecdotes, read by Dorothy Tutin
11.00 Saturday Night Fry: Comedy revue with Stephen Fry (who also wrote the script), Hugh Laurie and Emma Thompson (s)
11.30 Star Turk II: Jeffrey Holland, Christopher Godwin, Susie Blake and Fred Harris in comedy
12.00 News; Weather **12.33** Shipping
VHF as above except: **1.55-2.00pm** Programme News **5.50-5.55** Programme News

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the half-hour until **10.30**, then at **12.30** pm, **3.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30,** and **12.00** midnight
6.00 am Simon Mayo **8.00** Peter Powell **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00** pm Sunday Oldies With Mike Read **3.00** Christmas Scruples **3.30** Backchat (Liz Kershaw and Ro Newton) **4.00** Chartbusters **5.00** Top 40 **7.00** Anne Nightingale **9.00** Andy Peebles Soul Train **11.00-12.00** The Ranking Miss P. **VHF** Stereo Radios 1 and 2:- **4.00** am As Radio 2 **5.00** pm As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2.

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
News on the hour (except **8.00** pm).
4.00 am Dave Bussey **6.00** Steve Truelove **7.30** Good Morning Sunday **9.05** Melodies For You **11.00** Desmond Carrington **2.00** pm Benny Green **3.00** Alan Dell **4.00** Moira Anderson's Serenade **4.30** Sing Something Simple (Cliff Adams Singers) **5.00** Charlie Chester with Sunday Soapbox **7.00** Living With Betty (Barbara Windsor and Peter Sallis) **7.30** Ian Wallace Presents Brian Johnston **8.30** Sunday Half-Hour (St Mary's, Parish Church, West Derby, Liverpool) **9.00** Your Hundred Best Tunes **10.05** Christmas Songs From The Shows **10.45** Roderick Elms and John Alley at the piano **11.00** Sounds of Jazz **1.00** am Bill Rennells **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times given in GMT
6.00am Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 24 Hours 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.50 Waveguide 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 The Pleasure's Yours 9.00 News 9.09 Sunday Papers 9.15 Science in Action 9.45 On The Road 10.00 News 10.01 Short Story 10.15 Classical Record Review 10.30 Carol Service 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 From Our Own Correspondent 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 News 12.01 Play of the Week: Get Santa 1.00 News 1.09 24 Hours 1.30 Sports Roundup 1.45 Sandi Jones Request Show, including at 2.00 News 2.30 After Henry 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Concert Hall 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Learning the Lingo 4.45 Letter From America 5.00 News 5.09 Reflections 5.15 English by Radio 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heure Absolue 8.00 News 8.09 24 Hours 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 News 9.01 Story 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours 10.00 News 10.09 The Man of Property 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial Review 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Letter From America 11.30 Questions of Faith 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Carol Service 1.00 News 1.01 The Old Ladies at the Zoo 1.45 *Organists of Paris* 2.00 News 2.09 Commentary 2.15 Peebles' Choice 2.30 Science in Action 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 Books 3.30 Anything Goes 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Six Four Eight 4.35 Financial News 4.45 Morgenmagazin 5.45 Recording of Week.

Radio 3

4.55 am. Fourth day of Third Test, Pakistan v England. Until **11.35am.** ON MW and VHF, but MW only from **6.55am**
6.55 Weather **7.00** News
7.05 English Pastorals: includes Vaughan Williams's Serenade to Music (LSO with soloists Morison, Thomas, Robertson and Anthony), excerpts from Purcell's Fairy Queen (ECO, with soloists Wells and Bowman)
8.00 World Service News
8.10 Lili Kraus (piano): Mozart's Piano Concerto No 9 (with Vienna Festival Orchestra), Variations on Unser dummer Pöbel meint; and Fantasia in D minor, K 397 **9.00** News
9.05 Your Concert Choice: Smetana (Scherzo, Festive Symphony: Czech PO), Szymanowski (Violin Concerto No 1: Kulka with Polish RSO), Vaughan Williams (Magnificat: Orchestra Nova of London with Helen Watts (contralto), Field (Piano Concerto No 3: John O'Conor with New Irish Chamber Orchestra)
10.30 Music Weekly: Includes a conversation with Ralph Kirshbaum, and a feature about Elgar's *correspondence with his* publishers
11.15 Piano recital: Steven de Groote plays Schubert's Sonata in G., D 894; and Debussy's Images, Book 2
12.15 Words: talk by Dr Mark Elvin, Fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford
12.20 Academy of Ancient Music, under Sigiswald Kuijken (violin). Bach (Suite No 1, BWV 1066) and Rameau (Zoroastre suite)
2.00 City of London Festival 1987: Peter Schreier (tenor), Geoffrey Parsons (piano). All-Schubert recital, including Schwanengesang, D 957; Liebesbotschaft; Kriegers Ahnung; Rastlose Liebe; Three songs of the Harper
3.45 The Alhambra Tales: Neville Jason reads Washington Irving's The Legend of the Moor's Legacy
4.00 Mozart: Berlin Philharmonic Wind Ensemble play the Divertimento in F, K 213
4.15 Segovia: Rodrigo's Fantasia para un gentilhombre; Sor's Andantino; Ponce's Suite in A; and Segovia's arrangement of Frescobaldi's Aria and Corrente
5.05 An Afternoon with Ravel: play by Roger Nichols, with *John Church (as Ravel),* Ian Thompson, Alan Dudley and John Samson
6.05 French Christmas Music: Poulenc's Four Christmas Motets, and Saint-Saens's Oratorio de Noel (City of London Sinfonia, Richard Hickox Singers, and soloists Bradshaw, Denley, Gunson, and Hill)
7.00 Parodies Lost, by Malcolm Burgess. Read by Eleanor Bron
7.05 Bach Cello Suites: Ralph Kirshbaum plays No 1 in G
7.30 BBC SO, under Andrew Davis, with BBC Singers, BBC Symphony Chorus. Debussy (Nocturnes), Respighi (Pines of Rome), Ravel (Daphnis et Chloë). At **8.15,** Margaret Wolfit as Colette
9.45 1987 Reith Lectures, by Alexander Goehr : Survival of the Symphony. (7) Let the People Sing
10.15 A Direct and Simple Style: Weill's opera Der Jasager; excerpts from Orff's Schulwerk (Orff conducts), and Steve Reich's Drumming: part 1 (Reich and musicians)
11.15 Bach on the Lute: Maggie Cole plays Suite in E minor, BWV 996; and Nigel North plays pPrelude, Fugue and Allegro in E flat, BWV 998
11.45 Fauré Piano Music: the composer plays Barcarolles *Nos 1 and 3; and Collard* plays the Barcarolle No 12
11.57 News **12.00** Closedown

Radio 4

LW (Long Wave). (s) Stereo on VHF
5.55 Shipping **6.00** New Briefing; Weather **6.10** Prelude (s)
7.00 News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** On Your Farm **7.40** Sunday
8.00 News **8.10** Sunday Papers **8.50** The Week's Good Cause (appeal by Martyn Lewis)
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers **9.15** Letter From America **9.30** Morning Service
10.15 The Archers: omnibus edition of the doings in Ambridge
11.15 News Stand with Polly Toynbee
11.30 *Pick of the Week:* Margaret Howard presents her choice of TV and radio highlights
12.15 Desert Island Discs; Michael Parkinson's guest is Victoria Wood who picks some of her favourite recordings **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: the team visit the Gwent Federation of Women's Institutes in Pontllanfraith
2.30 Venus Observed by Christopher Fry, with Denholm Elliott as the Duke of Altair. Cast also includes Elizabeth Spriggs, Moira Redmond, Stephanie Bidmead and Angela Down (r) (s)
4.00 News; Charles Dickens Commits Murder: Joss Ackland plays the ageing author rehearsing for a reading of the murder of Nancy. Written by Raymund Fitzsimmons (r)
4.47 The Butterfly Collectors: profile of the Rev Miles Moss who used the graveyard of his church in the Amazon as a breeding ground
5.00 News; Down Your Way: Dancer Wayne Sleep goes on a tour of Covent Garden
6.00 News **6.15** In Praise of God: music and readings for Christmas with the London Bach Society. Readers are Prunella Scales and Paul Daneman
7.00 News; Charley's Aunt by Brandon Thomas, adapted for radio by David Buck, with Tim Pigott-Smith as Jack Chesney. Cast also includes Jeremy Clyde, Nina Thomas and Stella Forge (first heard on the BBC World Service) (r) (s)
8.00 Bookshelf: with Nigel Forde. Includes some reminiscences about E.Nesbit (includes an interview with her new biographer, Julia Briggs), and an interview with Clare Frances about her new thriller. Also, comment on a new book about Mahler (r)
8.30 The Brick That Created A World: Brian Sibley visits Billund in Denmark to trace the history of Lego
9.00 I Am Inisent: Monica Gough tells the story of Thomas Holden's transportation to America in 1812. With John Basham as Holden
9.15 The Natural History Programme: presented by Fergus Keeling
10.00 News bulletin
10.15 Inside Hollywood Bowl: Jeremy Siepmann traces the Bowl's colourful history and the many entertainements it has housed over the years (r)
11.00 The Root Of The Matter: key political issues from the perspective of men and women most affected by them.
11.30 Seeds of Faith: When You Became Man. With the Right Rev Cyril Bowles
12.00 News: Weather **VHF** as above except: **1.55-2.00pm** Programme News **5.50-5.55** Programme News

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; LBC:

Violence in Gaza Strip brings threat to hostages

From Juan Carlos Gumucio, west Beirut

Muslim extremists holding three Americans and an Indian hostage last night threatened to take unspecified reprisals on their captives if Israel continued its crackdown on Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The threat was made in a statement of the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine organization delivered to the Beirut daily *An Nahar* along with colour photographs of Mr Jesse Turner and Mr Robert Polhill. The two Americans were kidnapped almost a year ago in west Beirut by gunmen posing as policemen. They were seized along with Mr Alan Steen, also an American, and Mr Mitileshwar Singh, an Indian. All of them worked as teachers at the American-affiliated Beirut University College.

The photographs released last night appeared to be old. One of them showed Mr Polhill with two automatic weapons pointing to his head.

The statement said that the group may "resort to extreme negative actions against the US and Israel" and "use all the cards it holds, including the four Mossad spies, if the criminal policy of repelling the uprising and killing the innocents continues".

● JERUSALEM: Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, responded to the threats through his press spokesman, Mr Avi Pazner: "I hope that they will not carry out this threat. Certainly such threats are not effective as far as Israel is concerned" (Ian Murray writes).

Two shot dead in Israeli crackdown

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

There was no let-up in the violence sweeping the Israeli occupied territories yesterday, with two more Palestinians being shot dead in the Gaza Strip, a boy aged 14 dying of wounds suffered there on Wednesday and a man aged 70 collapsing and dying outside the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem when teargas was used to break up a demonstration.

The deaths came as the Foreign Ministry set up an emergency team to try to counter growing criticism from around the world at the brutal way Israeli security forces are reported to be putting down disturbances which have now lasted 11 days.

Yesterday's most serious trouble started immediately after prayers in the mosques, during which the message up and down the territories was to resist the occupation.

In Shajayia, a particularly depressed area of Gaza Town, the demonstration outside the mosque grew particularly violent after troops fired teargas inside. They eventually opened fire, with one person killed. The same pattern occurred at el-Bureij camp, to its south, and six people were reported wounded.

At the al-Aqsa mosque Friday prayers also ended with a demonstration as Arab youths threw stones at Israeli soldiers.

There were widespread demonstrations throughout the Gaza Strip despite the much increased military presence there. An extra eight regiments, totalling about 5,000 men, have been sent to the area, in addition to the regular contingent of army and border police which numbers about 1,000.

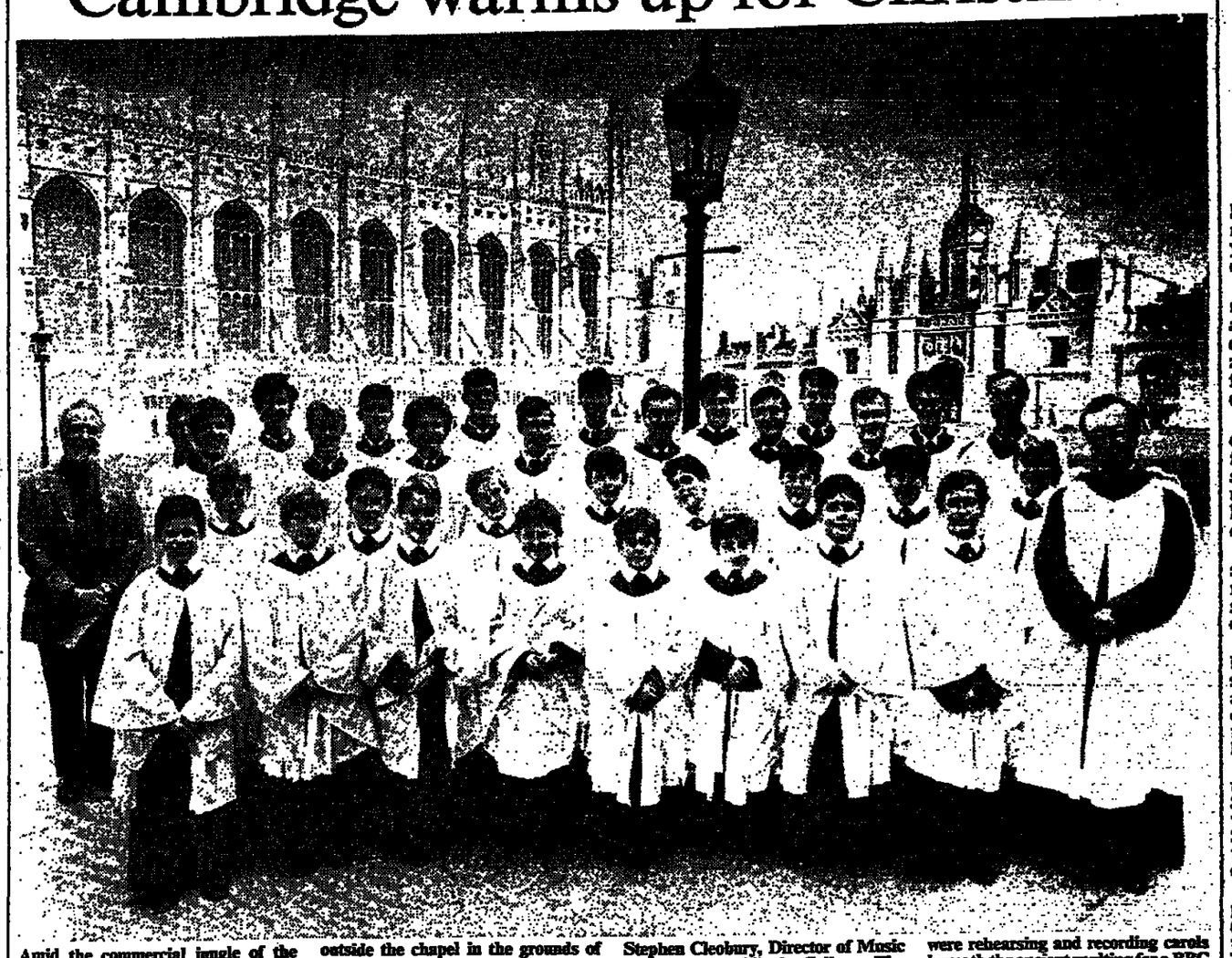
Elsewhere in the West Bank there were other demonstrations and a few stones thrown, but everything was in a lower key than over the past week. Gaza, by contrast, remains as tense and volatile as ever.

In what appears to be a different context, the British consulate in East Jerusalem was the target of a petrol bomb late on Thursday evening. It fell harmlessly outside the building.

The American consulate in East Jerusalem was similarly bombed last Sunday evening. The attack came just after it was broadcast that there had been strong criticism of Israel by the US State Department.

The British consul general, Mr Ivan Callan, has been in the news for organizing a tour of the occupied territories for Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who has responsibility for the Middle East.

Cambridge warms up for Christmas



Amid the commercial jungle of the season, the choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge stands aloft for millions of its devotees around the world as the true keeper of Christmas. Yesterday the 32 choristers paused outside the chapel in the grounds of King's College for a photograph during their traditionally exhausting Christmas programme with (left) Mr Gerald Peacocke, headmaster of King's College School, and (right) Mr Stephen Cleobury, Director of Music and Organist, King's College. The choristers, whose daily devotion would have impressed their musical ancestors, the monks in the time of Henry VI when the choir was founded, were rehearsing and recording carols beneath the ancient vaulting for a BBC Television broadcast from the chapel on Christmas Eve. On Monday the choir will be singing at Snape.
Photograph: John Rogers

Staff to sign no smoking contract

By Craig Seton

Employees joining Birmingham City Council next year will have a no-smoking clause in their contracts.

Staff must accept that they may not smoke if they are appointed to a department designated a no-smoking zone. Those who defy the ban face disciplinary action and even dismissal.

The Labour-controlled council, which runs courses for those who want to stop smoking, wants to create voluntary smoke-free zones after heads of department have consulted their staff.

Such zones are likely to be set up in council offices, maintenance depots, school staff rooms and the cabs of council vehicles.

Birmingham is believed to be the first council to impose such a condition of service, and the rule comes in the wake of an industrial tribunal ruling this week that an employee has no right to smoke at work.

The move was welcomed by the pressure group Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), whose director, Mr David Simpson, said: "In a year or two, such action will be commonplace".

Mr Stephen Eyres, of the pro-smoking group Forest (Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco) said it was reasonable to insist new recruits did not smoke. "Our quarrel is with employers who introduce bans without consultation".

Teachers may be 'fined' for striking

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Government is planning to "fine" teachers who go on strike by changing their pension arrangements. The move was announced yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

At present, striking teachers can protect their pension rights by paying both their own and their employer's contributions for the time they were on strike.

Under the proposed new arrangements, teachers who strike will have to pay both contributions, equivalent to 15.5 per cent of their salary, for a minimum period of 30 days.

Alternatively, they will be able to wait until they retire and then have the contributions for the days they went on strike deducted from their lump sums. However, those deductions will be based on what they are earning immediately before they retire and not on what they were earning when they went on strike.

The plan was condemned by the teaching unions. Mr Peter Smith, deputy general secretary of the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association, described it as petty and vindictive.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, whose members are pledged never to strike, said the proposal was unjust, unreasonable and punitive.

Mr Baker said there would be a one-month consultation period. He expects the regulations, which will be laid before Parliament, to come into effect next April.

US expels alleged Soviet spy at UN

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The United States is expelling Mr Mikahil Katkov, a Second Secretary at the Soviet mission to the United Nations in New York, for alleged espionage.

"We expect him to depart shortly, but I don't have any particular time to offer," the State Department spokesman said. Mr Katkov was being expelled for "engaging in activities which are in abuse of his privileges of residence under the United Nations headquarters agreement."

"Abuse of privileges of residence" is a phrase frequently used by the State Department to refer to espionage, the spokesman explained.

Mr Katkov was apprehended on Thursday by the FBI, but the spokesman would not give details of his alleged spying activities or what he was doing at the time of his detention.

The incident comes just a week after President Reagan's summit meeting here with Mr Mikahil Gorbachov, the Soviet leader.

Asked how serious the incident was and whether it would "rattle the superpower relationship", the spokesman said: "These are the kinds of cases we have from time to time. We take espionage seriously, and we pursue these cases whenever they come up.

"This is another one of them. Concerning the impact on the relationship, I don't really know that I'd predict anything in particular."

But he added that there would be "no justification for the Soviet side to retaliate in a case like this" by carrying out a tit-for-tat explusion.

Asked if there was a deliberate effort not to arrest him either immediately before or during the Reagan-Gorbachov summit, the spokesman said: "I don't know what other opportunities could have existed. In any case, this action was precipitated by his own actions at that moment at which he was apprehended."

£10,000 for mother and girl in sex abuse blunder

Continued from page 1

Her divorced mother, aged 38, from Norton, Cleveland whose former husband was called back from abroad, became suicidal as she was questioned about her sex life and boy friends.

● The finger of suspicion was finally lifted in the Appeal Court yesterday from two parents whose children were caught up in the Cleveland child sex abuse controversey.

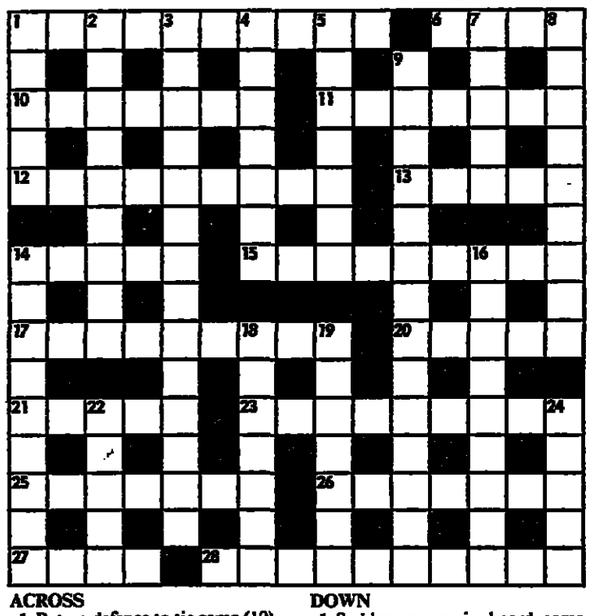
But three judges were divided in dismissing wardship orders on the couple's three young daughters who had been diagnosed as abuse victims by the consultant paediatrician, Dr Marietta Higgs.

The children were placed with foster parents after being examined by Dr Higgs and later by her fellow paediatrician, Dr Geoffrey Wyatt in June this year.

Nearly seven weeks later a High Court judge rejected the two doctors' evidence and allowed the children home. But he he refused to lift the wardships from the children.

Yesterday Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Purchas said the orders should be lifted. But Lord Justice Dillon said the judge was entitled to take the course he did.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,544



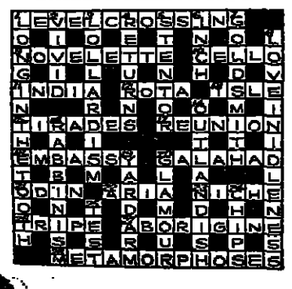
ACROSS

1 Put up defence to tie game (10).
6 Returned instrument to march with (4).
10 Fruit giving wine a bit of body (7).
11 Rodents in sleeping quarters freeze (7).
12 Most unusual compass, in two ways (9).
13 Top mark achievable in final phase (5).
14 Greeting that man will love to get (5).
15 Preventer of leaks is more loyal (9).
17 Unofficially informative fruit-producer (9).
20 A learner among three-quarters in Rugby stronghold (5).
21 Sheepish type who tricked hunter (5).
23 Daily grind? Clerical occupation (9).
25 Rabbits with all the virtues? (7).
26 Work fast outside university to get rich (7).
27 Rescue vessel on South Island (4).
28 New pence Neddy needed for 27, say (10).

DOWN

1 Sudden moves in board game (5).
2 Large island in a lake in European country (9).
3 Second's providing support deceitfully (6,4,4).
4 At home with the newspapers, but coming out soon (2,5).
5 Got idea developed for showy annual (7).
7 Colonel's aircraft (5).
8 Reference book, therefore, about 21's twin? Right (9).
9 Harrow, for the first time, to be innovative (5,3,6).
14 In Oxford Street, dodges merry-making (4,5).
16 Time for witches – another spell for 14*ac* to consider (9).
18 Has-been's confession in deadlock (7).
19 Investigate and record knowledge about unknown quantity (7).
22 Fielder caught a number of balls (5).
24 Girl in pool (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,543



Solution to Puzzle No 17,538



WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

SEMORDNILAP
a. The King of Laputa
b. A distance at racing
c. A reversal

EAGRE
a. The female sea eagle
b. A headache
c. A tidal wave

CHICHEVACHE
a. A monster
b. A cavalcade
c. A milking stool

SHEEMACH
a. A seaweed
b. Turkish mezes
c. A mop of hair

Solutions page 20, column 8

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World *will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs M Camilleri, Stonehouse Lane, Cookham Dean, Maidenhead, Berks; E Finnigan, Raleigh Ave, St Helier, Jersey; Mrs E Plumridge, Middleton Rd, Yoxford, Saxmundham, Suffolk; R Scott, Beechwood, Melrose, Roxburghshire; W M Saxon, Queens Rd, Hazelgrove, Stockport, Cheshire.

Name.....

Address.....

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Concise crossword, page 19

WEATHER

Most places will be dry at first although there will be some rain over Northern Ireland. During the morning this rain will spread steadily east across to the rest of Britain, but north-eastern areas will probably stay dry until the afternoon. The rain is likely to be heaviest over northern Britain, lighter in the south and most of this will be around western coasts and over hills. Winds in the south will be moderate to fresh and temperatures will be mild. There will be fog around western and southern coasts and also over hills during the day. During the evening clearer showery weather will reach Scotland and Northern Ireland. Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: rain in places tomorrow, becoming showery on Monday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	18	64	Malta	f	19	66
Akrotiri	f	16	61	Melb'rne	c	18	64
Alex'dria	c	17	63	Mexico C'	s	22	72
Algiers	s	20	68	Milan'	s	19	66
Amst'dm	f	11	52	Montreal'	s	-6	21
Athens	t	14	57	Moscow	s	-7	19
Bahrain	s	21	70	Naples	s	15	59
Barcelna	s	20	68	N Delhi	s	18	64
Belgrade	c	6	43	N York'	s	4	39
Berlin	r	10	50	Nice	f	16	61
Bermuda'	f	16	61	Oslo	c	-4	25
Biarritz	f	21	70	Paris	r	14	57
Borde'x	s	17	63	Prague	c	10	50
Chicago'	s	-4	25	Reykjvk	f	6	43
Chi'church	c	18	64	Rhodes	f	17	63
Cologne	c	16	61	Rio de J	s	22	80
C'pnhgn	r	5	41	Riyadh	s	23	73
Corfu	s	17	63	S P'lrace'	s	11	52
Dublin	c	10	50	Santiago'	s	27	81
Dubrovnik	f	14	57	S Paulo'	c	29	84
Faro	f	17	63	Seoul	s	7	45
Frankfurt	c	14	57	Sydney	f	30	86
Funchal	s	20	68	Tangier	s	20	68
Geneva	f	11	52	Tel aviv	f	18	64
Gibraltar	s	15	59	Tenerife	s	24	75
Helsinki	c	-1	30	Tokyo	s	8	46
Hong K	f	18	64	Toronto'	sn	-4	25
Jo'burg'	f	25	77	Tunis	s	21	70
L Palmas	s	22	72	Valencia	s	19	66
La Toquet	c	10	50	Vanc'ver'	c	-1	30
L Angels'	r	11	52	Venice	s	7	45
Lusembg	r	13	55	Wash'ton'	c	4	39
Madrid	fg	13	55	Wel'ton	f	16	64
Majorca	c	15	59	Zurich	c	12	54

* denotes avaliable Thuraday's figures are latest

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	3.5	.13	11	52	-
Hunstanton	-	.01	11	52	cloudy
Cromer	0.7	.08	12	54	bright
Clacton	0.7	.02	13	55	cloudy
Southend	1.1	.01	12	54	cloudy
Margate	-	-	14	57	sunny
Folkestone	-	.09	12	54	cloudy
Hastings	-	.09	11	52	cloudy
Brighton	-	.05	9	48	bright
Worthing	0.3	.03	11	52	cloudy
Littlehmptn	0.5	.06	12	54	bright
Bognor R	0.7	.05	11	52	cloudy
Southsea	0.4	.02	11	52	cloudy
Sandown	0.2	.03	12	54	cloudy
Bournemth	0.2	.13	11	52	cloudy
Poole	0.7	.09	12	54	bright
Swanage	0.2	.06	11	52	bright
Weymouth	1.3	-	12	54	bright
Exmouth	0.7	.06	13	55	cloudy
Teignmouth	1.4	.08	13	55	cloudy
Torquay	1.3	.04	13	55	bright
Falmouth	1.0	.07	13	55	cloudy
Penzance	2.2	.05	13	55	bright
Scilly Isles	2.2	-	12	54	bright
Jersey	-	.13	12	54	rain
Guernsey	-	.02	13	55	rain
Ilfracombe	-	.18	14	57	dull
Minehead	0.8	.12	12	54	bright
B'pool Airpt	0.6	.33	9	48	shower
Blackpool	0.8	.58	9	48	dull
Douglas	-	.22	10	50	bright
Anglesey	0.2	.38	10	50	shower
Kinloss	3.0	-	11	52	bright
Lerwick	-	.21	9	48	rain
Prestwick	-	.02	10	50	shower
Stornoway	-	.06	9	48	drizzle
Tiree	0.1	.12	10	50	rain
Wick	1.8	.02	10	50	bright

* Denotes figures not available

HIGH TIDES

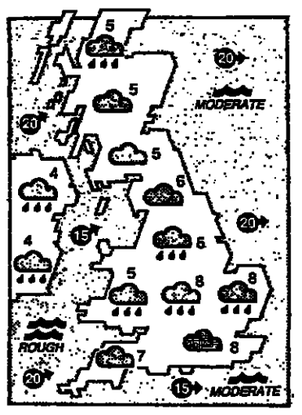
TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.01	6.5	12.21	6.5	London Bridge	12.52	6.7	1.12	6.7
Aberdeen	—	—	12.01	4.0	Aberdeen	12.18	4.1	12.42	4.2
Avonmouth	5.36	12.0	5.58	12.3	Avonmouth	6.28	12.6	6.52	12.7
Belfast	9.31	3.3	9.49	3.4	Belfast	10.12	3.4	10.33	3.5
Cardiff	5.21	11.1	5.43	11.4	Cardiff	6.13	11.6	6.37	11.7
Devonport	4.09	5.1	4.30	5.2	Devonport	5.00	5.3	5.25	5.3
Dover	9.21	6.1	8.55	6.2	Dover	10.09	6.3	10.44	6.4
Falmouth	3.39	4.9	4.00	5.0	Falmouth	4.30	5.1	4.55	5.1
Glasgow	11.18	4.6	11.29	4.7	Glasgow	—	—	12.03	4.7
Harwich	10.16	3.7	10.47	3.8	Harwich	11.08	3.9	11.34	3.9
Holyhead	8.50	5.2	9.10	5.3	Holyhead	9.32	5.5	9.56	5.4
Hull	4.38	6.7	5.08	6.8	Hull	5.30	6.9	5.54	7.0
Ilfracombe	4.23	8.4	4.42	8.5	Ilfracombe	5.08	8.6	5.30	8.9
Leith	12.45	5.1	1.14	5.2	Leith	1.37	5.3	2.00	5.3
Liverpool	9.42	8.8	10.03	8.9	Liverpool	10.28	9.1	10.51	9.1
Lowestoft	7.42	2.4	8.19	2.4	Lowestoft	8.33	2.4	9.00	2.4
Margate	10.23	4.4	10.59	4.6	Margate	11.12	4.6	11.11	4.6
Milford Haven	4.38	6.4	5.01	6.5	Milford Haven	5.26	6.7	5.50	6.8
Newquay	3.31	6.4	3.53	6.5	Newquay	4.18	6.7	4.41	6.6
Oban	4.23	3.7	4.31	3.8	Oban	5.05	3.9	5.19	3.9
Penzance	3.11	5.2	3.31	5.3	Penzance	3.59	5.4	4.22	5.4
Portland	5.19	2.0	5.41	2.0	Portland	6.15	2.2	6.39	2.1
Portsmouth	9.50	4.5	10.19	4.5	Portsmouth	10.38	4.7	11.08	4.8
Shoreham	9.32	5.9	10.01	5.8	Shoreham	10.20	6.1	10.51	6.0
Southampton	9.27	4.3	9.56	4.2	Southampton	10.11	4.4	10.41	4.4
Swansea	4.44	8.8	5.05	9.0	Swansea	5.32	9.2	5.54	9.3
Tees	1.58	5.0	2.26	5.2	Tees	2.47	5.2	3.08	5.4
W'ton-on-Nze	10.12	3.9	10.41	4.0	W'ton-on-Nze	11.01	4.1	11.26	4.1

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.28ft. Times are GMT

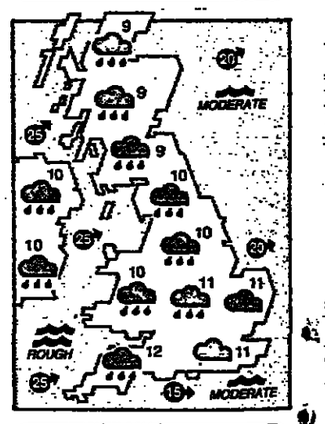
TODAY	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	TOMORROW	Sun rises:	Sun sets:
	8.02 am	3.53 pm		8.03 am	3.53 pm
	Moon rises: 7.01 am	Moon sets: 2.06 pm		Moon rises: 8.23 am	Moon sets: 2.56 pm
New Moon Tomorrow			New Moon 6.25 pm		

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AM



PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 14C (57F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 13C (55F). Humidity: 6 pm, 72 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.7hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1011.4 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.46in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY
London 4.23 pm to 7.33 am
Bristol 4.33 pm to 7.42 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.11 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.52 am
Penzance 4.51 pm to 7.48 am

TOMORROW
London 4.23 pm to 7.34 am
Bristol 4.33 pm to 7.43 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.12 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.53 am
Penzance 4.51 pm to 7.48 am

YESTERDAY

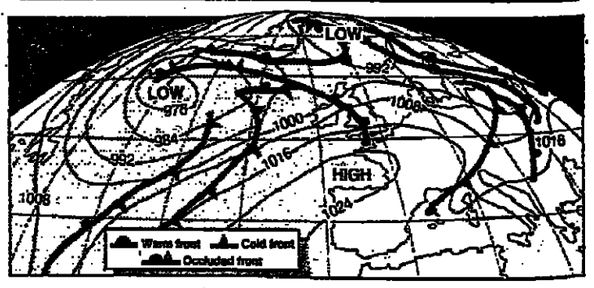
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	6	46	Guernsey	fg	11	52
B'mingham	c	11	52	Inverness	f	9	48
Blackpool	c	9	48	Jersey	f	11	52
Bristol	c	10	50	London	c	13	55
Cardiff	c	11	52	M'chester	r	11	52
Edinburgh	r	9	48	Newcastle	c	10	50
Glasgow	r	10	50	R'nldsway	f	10	50

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Minehead, Somerset, 16C (61F); lowest day max: Inverness, Highland and Dalcrose, Highland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Skegness, Lincolnshire, 0.49in; highest sunshine: Southport, Merseyside, 1hr.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.65	2.61	Italy Lire	2265	2155
Austria Sch	21.75	20.85	Japan Yen	242	238
Belgium Fr	64.75	61.65	Netherlands Gld	3.475	3.305
Canada $	2.47	2.35	Norway Kr	12.18	11.53
Denmark Kr	11.93	11.33	Portugal Esc	251	238
Finland Mkk	7.71	7.31	South Africa Rd	4.50	3.98
France Fr	10.41	9.91	Spain Pta	219	198
Germany Dm	3.10	2.94	Sweden Kr	11.26	10.71
Greece Dr	268	248	Switzerland Fr	2.51	2.39
Hong Kong $	14.65	13.95	USA $	1.90	1.81
Ireland Pt	1.185	1.185	Yugoslavia Dar	3000	2200

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 103.4 (November) London: The *FT* index closed up 11.2 at 1377.8.

هكذا من الاصل

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

PART 2
SATURDAY DECEMBER 19 1987

THE TIMES

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-31
SPORT 34-38

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1377.8 (+11.2)

FT-SE 100
1717.0 (+10.8)

Bargains
28077 (27907)

USM (Datastream)
133.49 (–0.03)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8260 (–0.0085)

W German mark
2.9837 (+0.0063)

Trade-weighted
75.5 (–0.1)

Benlox lets Storehouse bid lapse

Benlox, the engineering group, last night allowed its takeover bid for Storehouse, the high street group which includes Habitat and BHS, to lapse.

The offer was thought to have attracted fewer than 2 per cent acceptances from Storehouse shareholders.

But the bid, which was peppered with acrimony, ended on a sour note when Benlox – advised by mini-merchant bank Ifincorp Earl – said it had become apparent that there was "significant dissatisfaction" among the large Storehouse shareholders.

"In the last few days it has become clear that a demerger is not the only solution under consideration to solve the problems of Storehouse," said Benlox.

Observers said this was meant to indicate that some of the large shareholders might now put pressure on Sir Terence Conran, the Storehouse chairman, to make changes at the group.

Dee defence

Dee Corporation has appointed Lazard Brothers and Lazard Freres to lead the defence against the Barker and Dobson bid. Dee has also appointed Morgan Grenfell to work in association with the Lazard houses.

Nash recovers

Pretax profits at Nash Industries, the packaging, engineering and construction group, staged a recovery last year, from £300,000 to just over £1 million.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones ..... 1958.06 (+33.66)*
Tokyo
Nikkei Average . 22826.97 (–72.86)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ..... 2180.46 (+38.23)
Amsterdam: Geri ..... n/a
Sydney: AO ..... 1240.8 (–9.7)
Frankfurt:
Commerzbank ..... 1329.3 (–18.8)
Brussels:
General ..... 3503.8 (–22.0)
Paris: CAC ..... 281.7 (–4.6)
Zurich: SKA Gen ..... 417.2 (–4.1)
London:
FT–A All-Share ..... 867.07 (+6.2)
FT–"500" ..... 957.68 (+8.72)
FT. Gold Mines ..... 313.8 (–5.2)
FT. Fixed interest ..... 94.88 (+0.4)
FT. Govt Secs ..... 97.72 (–0.14)

Recent issues Page 24
Closing prices Page 27

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Body Shop ..... 665p (+65p)
Pilkington ..... 215½p (+12p)
A B Ports ..... 447½p (+35p)
Gestetner ..... 153½p (+12p)
Avis Europe ..... 280½p (+26p)
Morgan Grenfell ..... 280p (+16p)
C D Bramall ..... 600p (+50p)
Schroders ..... 825p (+75p)
Attwoods ..... 267½p (+30p)
LWT Holdings ..... 757½p (+30p)
Marler ..... 570p (+100p)
Metal Box ..... 196p (+15p)
Lloyds ..... 231½p (+10p)
Laporte ..... 373½p (+11p)
Lucas ..... 538½p (+12p)
Wm Collins ..... 550p (+17p)
Hawley ..... 104p (+12p)

FALLS:
Berkeley Govett ..... 195p (–20p)
ERF ..... 202p (–13p)
Blockleys ..... 325p (–25p)
Closing prices

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 8½%
3-month interbank 9-8$^{15}/_{16}$%
3-month eligible bills:8$^{13}/_{32}$–8$^{11}/_{32}$% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8¾%
Federal Funds 6$^{11}/_{16}$%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.89-5.87%*
30-year bonds 98$^{21}/_{32}$-98$^{23}/_{32}$*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.8260	£: $1.8265*
£: DM2.9837	$: DM1.6335*
£: SwFr2.4158	$: SwFr1.3265*
£: FFr10.0887	$: FFr5.5240*
£: Yen231.99	$: Yen127.00*
£: Index:75.5	$: Index:93.3
ECU £0.692454	SDR £0.756177

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $484.55 pm-$481.00
close $480.00-480.50 (£263.00-263.50)
New York:
Comex $482.20-482.70*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan.) pm $16.25bbl ($15.70)
* Denotes latest trading price

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* * * * * *

Government may use 'golden share' to block takeover

BP is warned on Britoil bid

By Joe Joseph

The Government added fresh spice yesterday to the battle between British Petroleum and Atlantic Richfield of the United States for control of Britoil by announcing it would use its "golden share" to block a full bid for the Glasgow-based North Sea oil producer.

The intervention by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, as energy secretary in 1982, first steered Britoil into the private sector, came shortly after BP announced a £2.27 billion cash bid for Britoil. The move would seem to put the Government and BP on a collision course.

The bid of 450p for each Britoil share came as BP built up its stake in the company to 29.9 per cent, the maximum allowed under the City's takeover rules without triggering a full bid. Arco, which wants only 49.9 per cent of Britoil, has made it clear it would put up a rival bid if BP sought full control of Britoil.

The Treasury, throwing the Government's hat into the ring, said: "In present circumstances, the Government intends to use its special share in Britoil to prevent any bidder from gaining control of the Britoil board."

It said that once a formal offer was made, or control was obtained, of more than 50 per cent of Britoil's shares, the golden share clause would be triggered, allowing "the special shareholder to outvote all other shareholders at a general meeting on any resolution."

Britoil shares swiftly sank 70p as marketmakers tried to decipher the Treasury's intentions, but recovered to close only 1p lower at 421p. The Britoil board urged shareholders to do nothing until the directors had formulated their response to the latest moves by BP.

Sir Peter Walters, BP chairman, said in Glasgow yesterday that BP's intentions and the existence of the Government's special share were not incompatible if a Britoil board controlled by BP had the support of all the shareholders and was acting in the best interests of Britoil.

"BP was fully aware of the rights of the special share before announcing its offer this morning. We consider that our offer is attractive to Britoil's ordinary shareholders, as is demonstrated by BP's acquisition of 29.9 per cent of Britoil's issued ordinary share capital at or below the offer price," Sir Peter said.

He said: "BP wishes to give all existing Britoil shareholders the opportunity to realize their investment at 450p and intends, subject to the requirements of the panel on takeovers and mergers, to proceed with its offer on the announced terms".

Sir Peter said the company would be seeking talks with the Government "about issues surrounding the special share in due course." He said BP believed its acquisition of Britoil would be in the best interests of Britoil and its shareholders, "and with BP's commitment to North Sea exploration and development, in the interest of Scotland and the UK as a whole."

Comment.....25

The Government's special share does have a more immediate bearing on BP's bid. BP is asking the takeover panel to approve a clause in its offer under which its bid will be deemed to have succeeded if BP wins control of Britoil shares carrying more than 50 per cent of the voting rights, excluding the special share.

Since the City's Takeover Code was drawn up before special shares were thought of, there is currently no ruling on the issue and BP is hoping that the takeover panel will meet next Tuesday to give a ruling. BP said its bid would be shelved if the panel failed to give its blessing to this pivotal clause in its offer.

If its bid succeeds, BP has promised Glasgow will become the exploration, production and decision headquarters of BP's entire British oil and gas exploration and production business. This would involve the transfer of the chief executive and about 30 staff from London.

Sir Peter said he did not expect that "overall employee numbers in Glasgow and Aberdeen, taking BP and Britoil together, will fall as a result of the acquisition".

The chairman said BP's offer reflected the realities of the oil industry and was consistent with the needs of consumers who wished to be assured of secure oil supplies. Sir Peter said that the North Sea was an area of crucial strategic importance in exploration terms, but that hard and skilled work was needed to stem production decline and control costs.

Britoil, restricted exclusively to exploration and production, was badly hit by the drop in oil prices last year. Drastic economies were needed as a result.

"Britoil's commitments and responsibilities in the North Sea exceed those that a company of its size can hope to manage successfully in today's volatile enviroment", Sir Peter said.

He added: "If this is accepted, then why is BP the best company to acquire Britoil's interests and amalgamate them with its own? The answer lies both in BP's unrivalled experience in the North Sea and, as a British company, in its long standing commitment to Scotland."



(Left to right) Dr L Atkinson, of BP Exploration, Mr W Samuel, of Schroders, the merchant bank, Mr D A G Simon, managing director of BP, and Mr P G Cazelet, deputy chairman of BP, at a press conference yesterday.

Economy's growth rate highest for 14 years

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The British economy recorded its fastest rate of growth for more than 14 years in the third quarter. Gross domestic product figures, published yesterday, confirm the strength of the economy immediately before the stock market crash.

GDP in the third quarter, based on the average measure, was 5.2 per cent up on a year earlier, its best since the first quarter of 1973.

The economy grew by 2.2 per cent in the third compared with the second quarter – a rate that in many years would have been regarded as a respectable annual rate.

The strong growth rate in the third quarter, confirmed by the income, expenditure and output measures of GDP, probably overstated underlying growth in the economy, officials at the Central Statistical Office said.

They said there was some bunching of growth in the third quarter. They pointed to the level of GDP in the first nine months of the year, which was 4.1 per cent up on the corresponding period of 1986, in line with the Treasury's Autumn Statement forecast of a 4 per cent growth rate for the economy this year.

GDP in money terms in the third quarter was 10.3 per cent up on a year earlier, with the GDP deflator – generally regarded as the best measure of inflation across the economy – up by 4.8 per cent.

But the deflator on domestic expenditure, which rose by 4 per cent in the year to the third quarter, may in present circumstances provide a better indication of inflation, officials said. Therefore, it appears so far that faster growth has not resulted in inflation moving above its underlying 4 per cent rate.

The new GDP figures contain revisions to data going back to 1981 because self-employment income was overstated, more spending by the elderly on residential care has been detected and new Family Expenditure Survey data has uncovered other areas where spending was understated.

These changes have led to a difference in what the statisticians call the net evasion allowance, or net undeclared income in the economy. This is now put at 1.25 per cent of GDP – about £4 billion at present – compared with a previous estimate of 1 per cent.

Consumer spending in the third quarter was 5.7 per cent up on a year earlier.

GDP

	Index	Change (%)
1985 Q1	109.4	3.1
Q2	110.7	4.8
Q3	110.6	3.8
Q4	110.6	2.7
1986 Q1	112.5	2.8
Q2	113.1	2.1
Q3	113.9	3.0
Q4	115.2	4.2
1987 Q1	116.3	3.4
Q2	117.3	3.7
Q3	119.8	5.2

Average GDP estimate (1980=100)
Source: Central Statistical Office

Gorbachov clears way for £246m UK order

By Colin Narbrough

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, has cleared the way for a £246 million high-tech plant order for two British groups, Simon Engineering and GEC.

Under the deal, signed yesterday, the British firms will build a turnkey plant at Yerevan, the capital of Soviet Armenia, to produce microchip-based controlling equipment for the Russian machine tool industry.

Delays from the Soviet side had angered the Government, which felt the Russians were not living up to the ambitious agreement Mrs Thatcher and Mr Gorbachov reached in Moscow in March for a 40 per cent boost in bilateral trade by 1990.

The Yerevan order, on which protocol of intent was signed during Moscow visit, was considered important enough for Mrs Thatcher to take up at the brief summit the two leaders had at RAF Brize Norton last week.

Mr Alan Clark, the Minister for Trade, who accompanied Mrs Thatcher to the meeting, also stressed to Soviet ministers the importance Britain attached to the contract.

Mr Clark said: "The negotiations have been long and difficult, but their outcome shows how the Soviets appreciate the quality of British technology."

Simon Carves, a Stockport subsidiary of Simon Engineering, is the main contractor for the project, with GEC's Staffordshire industrial controls unit providing technology and know-how.

Money supply figures lift gilts

By Our Economics Correspondent

A better-than-expected set of money supply figures and a strong performance by US bonds provided encouragement for the gilt market yesterday.

Gilts ended about a point up on the day, after Bank of England figures showed no rise in the M3 measure of the money supply last month, and US long bond yields dropped below 9 per cent.

M3 was unchanged last month, after a rise of 3.5 per cent in October. Its 12-month growth rate dropped from 22.8 to 21.3 per cent.

Bank lending growth, at £3.2 billion, was in the middle of the range of market expectations, although slightly higher than the October figure of £2.9 billion.

Even so, the negative public sector borrowing requirement of £1.6 billion, domestic gilt sales of £1 billion, and the absence of currency intervention to swell the money supply figures, combined to produce a low monthly increase in M3 and the other broad money measures.

The gilt market was particularly encouraged by evidence that domestic buyers had returned to the gilt market in the wake of the stock markets' crash. Mr John Shepperd, economist at Warburg Securities, said this was the first indication of domestic gilt buying since the election.

The narrow measure of the money supply, M0, rose by 0.3 per cent last month. Its 12-month rate of growth fell from 5.5 per cent in October to 4.9 per cent last month. Although M0 is not regarded as important in the financial markets, there was some relief that it had dropped closer to the middle of its 2 per cent to 6 per cent official target range.

● The Department of Employment published detailed figures for the retail price index, showing a 0.5 per cent rise in the index to 103.4 (January 1987=100) last month. Of this change, the Department said, 0.4 per cent was accounted for by higher prices – notably for food – and the remaining 0.1 per cent reflected a catching-up as a result of a computer error discovered by officials.

Comment, page 25

No takers for Moores

By Our City Staff

3i, the venture capital group, has failed to find takers for the £30 million in equity it subscribed for when it financed the management buyout of Moores Furniture Group before the October market crash.

3i put up £80 million to finance the buyout of Moores, a kitchen unit manufacturer. This comprised £40 million of debt, £10 million of convertible loans and £30 million of equity. 3i was unable to syndicate this equity when it canvassed the market last month.

The group yesterday denied it had lost £30 million on the deal because of the subsequent market crash, pointing out that Moores was an unquoted investment. "There is no realized loss," a spokesman said.

He added that £40 million of debt had been "placed with a major bank" for syndication although it had not yet been syndicated. 3i was holding the £10 million convertible loan stock as "an investment."

£1.1bn boost for building societies

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Building societies had a boom month for savings inflows during November as investors flocked to find a safe haven for their money after October's stock market crash, according to industry figures published yesterday.

The massive £1.1 billion net inflow, the third largest ever recorded, gave rise to hopes of a further cut in the cost of home loans early next year.

Investors have been selling their shares and diverting new investment from the stock market to building societies. As a result, unit trusts suffered a net outflow of funds during November, although building societies also claim to be competitive compared with banks and National Savings.

The societies used their record inflows to reduce the amount of money borrowed on wholesale money markets by a net £341 million.

Mr John Bayliss, general manager of Abbey National, said: "If inflows continue at this rate after Christmas, and there is no sterling crisis or rise in base rates, things will be looking very good for home buyers."

The societies hope to regain some of their share of the mortgage market which has dropped to below 50 per cent this year for the first time. Home loan rates fell by about 1 percentage point for new borrowers in November, from 11.25 per cent to about 10.3 per cent, but societies flush with funds may choose to go lower to undercut banks.

Although receipts have dropped in the run-up to Christmas, they are expected to rise substantially again after the new year. Some societies, however, gave warning that it would take a further cut in bank base rates to bring mortgage rates down again.

The stock market crash has not affected house buying. Building societies promised to lend a record £3.3 billion in November, 33 per cent more than at the same time last year. Societies reported hardly any drop in mortgage demand even though Christmas is traditionally a slack time for house buying. They said there appeared to be no close link between stock market investments and house purchases.

The Boesky affair

Sentence opens the floodgates

From Charles Bremner, New York

The sentencing yesterday of Ivan Boesky, the man who came to symbolise the greed and corruption on Wall Street in the money-mad 80s, frees prosecutors to pursue at least a dozen highly-placed operators suspected of criminal financial dealings on a vast scale.

For months, Boesky, a Gatsby-like outsider obsessed with beating the establishment at the game of money-making, has been briefing investigators on every detail of the illicit deals with investors, bankers and brokers that generated hundreds of millions of dollars through manipulating stocks.

For two months last year he wore a "wire" – a radio body microphone – and provided recorded evidence of his secret pacts with some of Wall Street's biggest movers and shakers. Suddenly people who had once boasted of their links with the king of the arbitragers were frantic to disown him.

In return, Boesky was allowed to pay a $100 million fine, and all charges of insider trading and fraud were dropped while he pleaded guilty to a single charge of making a false financial statement.

His three-year sentence has been attacked by critics as grotesquely lenient for a man at the centre of one of the biggest webs of crime seen in America. Boesky says he is a reformed man who will remain an outcast for his sins. "It's like convicting Al Capone on a parking offence," said one critical lawyer.

Boesky's evidence helped British police to unravel the Guinness scandal as well as enabling the American "Feds" to arrest Mr Martin Siegel, a senior takeover specialist, and Mr Boyd Jefferies, an investment banker. But that was only the start.

On Monday, the worst fears of the city men were confirmed when the prosecutors were forced under a freedom of information law to release a secret memorandum to the court, albeit with names censored.

Boesky had given investigators a "window on the rampant criminal conduct that has permeated the securities industry", and dozens of individuals were under investigation, the memo said.

Criminal conduct, it said, was at the heart of a substantial amount of the activities of established professionals in the finance industry. This included not only insider trading, but also manipulation of stock prices and unlawful takeover activity.

Corporate takeovers, with all their paraphernalia of junk bonds and leveraged buyouts, were the big game of the 80s boom, the action that helped fuel the explosion in stock values and that helped many big firms grow fat.

Among those known to be under investigation are the big investment firm Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc, and the billionaire New York investor, Mr Carl Icahn, who owns TWA. The British fraud squad investigation into the Guinness share-support operation is now understood to be looking into the links between Boesky and several prominent British businessmen.

The US prosecutors took the unusual step of arranging Boesky's sentence before completing their investigation as a way of strengthening their hand. They hope that after he has served his time, defence lawyers for men yet to be arrested will not be able to claim that he is altering his testimony in the hope of receiving a shorter term.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Elga directors resign as results disappoint

Two directors of Elga Group, Mr John Tricks, the managing director, and Mr Philip Doggett, the finance director, have resigned from the board of the water purification company which announced disappointing half-year results yesterday. Elga was floated on the main market in June, in a placing of shares at 95p each which valued the company at £9.6 million.

Yesterday, the shares fell 10p to 59p as the company unveiled pretax profits of only £201,000 in the year to September 30, 1987, compared with £370,000 in the corresponding half last year. The company, which said results for the whole year were likely to be lower than last year's, is paying an interim dividend of 0.7p.

McKechnie in US buy

McKechnie, the engineering and plastics group, is paying up to $4.5 million (£2.5 million) for an 80 per cent stake in Plastic Container Corporation of Illinois, which makes and distributes blow-moulded PVC containers to the food industry. McKechnie, which has an option on the remaining 20 per cent of the company, will pay $3 million cash, which will be topped up depending on PCC's profits.

ITC told to reveal assets

The High Court yesterday ordered the International Tin Council to disclose its worldwide assets, widening a ruling in July that it should reveal the value and location of its British assets. The request to extend the order came from the metal trader Maclaine Watson, one of ITC's creditors. The ITC, whose buffer stock collapse triggered a worldwide tin crisis in October 1985, is expected to appeal.

Minorco in gold deal

Minorco, the overseas investment arm of South Africa's Anglo American group, is investing $80 million (£44 million) in a partnership with Inspiration Resources Corporation to explore and develop gold mines in North America. The companies are equal participants in Mingold Resources, a Canadian gold mining and exploration company, and Minorco has a broad spread of mining interests, of which gold is the most dominant.

Minorco, which has large stakes in Inspiration, Consolidated Gold Fields and Charter Consolidated, says the new partnership plans to spend $12 million next year on developing gold properties, and to increase production from 65,000 ounces to at least 200,000 ounces by the early 1990s. The partnership is expected to be set up by the year-end.

More wheels for Eurocast

Parkfield, the engineering group, is investing about £5.5 million to more than double production of aluminium alloy wheels at Eurocast International Foundries, the Cardiff wheel manufacturer acquired in October for £6.8 million. Eurocast, which supplies the domestic, European and US car industries, averages about 8,000 wheels a week. Parkfield plans to lift output to 20,000 by September, creating 200 jobs.

Interims rise at Forminster

Forminster, the clothing manufacturer, raised interim pretax profits from £698,000 to £843,000 in the six months to October 31. Sales during the half year reached £10 million. The Forminster board says it plans to continue buying in its own shares. Earnings per share rose from 11.05p to 14.79p. Shareholders will receive a half-way dividend of 2.5p compared with 2.24p the last time.

Fimbra battle likely

The lengthy legal proceedings between Walter L Jacob, the former licensed dealer, and Fimbra, the self-regulating organization for intermediaries, are set to stretch even further next week. WLJ is expected to issue proceedings against Fimbra in the Scottish courts to win a declaration that it is still a member of Fimbra.

Mr Walter L Jacob, the Scottish solicitor who is chairman of WLJ, yesterday gave journalists affidavits that were to be filed in the court proceedings. One exhibited alleged transcriptions of recordings of conversations which Mr Jacob says took place between an undercover agent and various people, including a senior Fimbra employee. WLJ is also asking the court for an order against Fimbra to recouvene its annual meeting from which Mr Jacob was evicted. WLJ has recently ceased trading.

STOCK MARKETS

Metal Box gains 19p as mystery buyer moves in

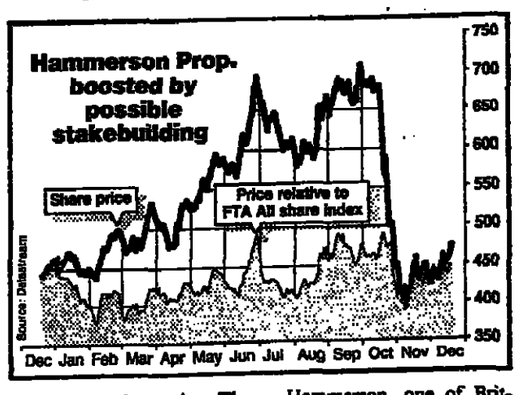
By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Dealers were making a concerted effort last night to establish the identity of a mystery buyer who has been stalking shares of Metal Box, whose interests stretch from central heating through to packaging and security printing.

A further 4.4 million shares were traded yesterday with the price closing 19p dearer at 200p – for a rise on the week of 32p. Hoare Govett, the broker, and rival Warburg Securities were reckoned to be big buyers of the shares. This has fuelled speculation that the mystery buyer may be building up a sizeable holding as the prelude to a full bid. At these levels the entire group is valued at almost £620 million.

The rise in the share price this week is made all the more impressive by the fact that Chase Manhattan Securities, the broker, put out a bearish circular earlier this week. To its embarrassment, Chase told clients that Metal Box was fully valued. Its timing could not have been worse.

The rest of the equity market ended the account on a firm note recovering from early hesitancy following a 50-point fall in the Dow Jones overnight on Wall Street. An early rally in New York following resumed trading, encouraged sentiment in London and enabled the FT-SE 100 to close 10.8 up at 1,717.8, having been nearly 25-points up earlier in the session. The "Footsie" has risen 134.2 (8.5 per cent) over the two-week trading period. The narrower FT index of 30 shares also wiped out an early fall to finish 11.2 higher at 1,377.8.



Government securities closed with gains of £⅛ in quiet trading.

Hammerson UK Properties were also chased sharply higher following suggestions that Mr Li Ka-shing, the wealthy Hong Kong businessman was about to declare a 5 per cent stake in the shares.

The ordinary shares ended 50p dearer at 535p with the 'A' gaining 45p to 525p – for a rise on the week of 68p. A total of 708,000 shares were traded.

Hammerson, one of Britain's biggest property groups, has been plagued by bid speculation in recent months. Hutchison Whampoa, headed by Mr Li, has been mentioned as a likely suitor in the past and is still sitting on spare cash following a recent rights issue.

Back in September Mr Li paid £235 million for a 4.9 per cent stake in Cable and Wireless, which has big interests in the Crown Colony and was part of the consortium which was recently awarded a licence to operate a telecommunications business in Japan.

But last night a spokeswoman for Hammerson told *The Times*: "We have not received any approach."

But several leading brokers have been taking a keen interest in the shares this week including Mr David Tunstall, the property analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker. He regards Hammerson as cheap and rates the shares a "buy."

He is impressed with the group's portfolio which is decribed as soundly-based and well-managed. About 60 per cent of the portfolio is made up of overseas investments while the remaining 40 per cent is held in this country, including shopping centres and office developments.

Mr Tunstall points out that the Hammerson share price stands at an estimated 30 per cent discount to the net asset value. The average for the rest of the property sector is about 20 per cent. The strong pound is also good news for Hammerson allowing it to buy overseas properties more cheaply.

The Water Authorities Superannuation Fund has emerged as the mystery buyer which snapped up a 14.9 per cent stake in Great Portland Estates earlier this week in a dawn raid. GPE firmed 2p to 299p.

Pilkington rose 12p to 215p on talk of BTR returning with a fresh bid for the company in January.

GKN, the engineering group, also regarded as a possible BTR takeover target, rose 6p to 310p on a turnover of nearly 2 million shares.

Glaxo, the pharmaceuticals group, advanced 25p to 998p despite yet another broker's profits downgrading. Coming hard on the heels of Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers' adjustment, Morgan Stanley has lowered its 1988 forecast by £20 million to £860 million since learning, after this week's annual meeting, that Glaxo does no currency hedging.

NEW YORK

Blue chips leap on deficit 'aberration'

(Reuter) – Blue chip stocks added to their moderate early gains on Wall Street yesterday following the statement from Mr Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, that the huge October United States trade deficit was an aberration.

Stocks had moved ahead earlier on the rising dollar, and lower bond rates following talk of an economic meeting of the group of seven.

The Dow Jones industrial index was 32 points up at 1,956.40 in early trading. It had fallen 50 points on Thursday as arbitragers unwound expiring stock instruments and on profit-taking.

Equities gaining ground led declining issues by more than two-to-one.

Gold mining stocks fell with the lower bullion price which had been dragged down by the fall in crude oil prices. ASA were off $1 lower at $49¼ (£26.91) and Newmont Gold were down $1⅛at $39.

Mr Tom Gallagher, the managing director in charge of capital commitment at Oppenheimer & Co, said: "The market's performance is bordering on great considering the nervousness of investors ahead of the 'triple witching hour' expiration of index futures and options, as well as options on individual stocks."

He added that part of the market's strength may have stemmed from Thursday's sharp fall in the Dow.

"People are no longer frightened by down days. Now they represent an opportunity to put money to work," he said.

He considered that investors may be taking a more positive view of the economy. "The economic scenario is such that the potential for growth seems to be there," he said.

	Dec 17	Dec 16		Dec 17	Dec 16		Dec 17	Dec 16
AMR Cp	34¾	34¾	Firestone	30¾	30¾	Pepsico	31¾	32¼
ASA	50⅛	50⅜	Fst Chicago	18	18⅛	Pfizer	44⅞	44¾
Aetna Life	44¾	45⅛	Fst Int Bncp	36¾	37½	Philip Pet	10¾	10⅞
Allied Signal	28⅝	29	Fst Penn C	7¼	7¼	Philip Mor	88⅛	93¼
Allis Chin	1⅛	1⅛	FT Wachvi	22⅜	22⅞	Phillip Pet	20¾	10⅞
Alcoa	48¾	49	Ford Motor	75⅞	77	Polaroid	24⅜	24⅝
Amax Inc	19⅝	20⅛	GAF Cp	43¾	45	Primerica	23⅜	23⅝
AMR Hess	28⅜	23⅜	GTE Cp	36⅜	37¾	Procl Gble	66	66⅞
Am Brands	42	43⅜	Gen Cp	64⅛	64⅜	Pub S E G	22	22⅛
Am Cynmid	41¾	41⅞	Gn Dynam	48⅝	49⅛	Raytheon	65⅝	65⅝
Am Ele Pwr	25⅝	26⅛	Gen Electric	45	46⅜	Rystick Med	48	48⅜
Amexco	23⅛	23⅜	Gen Inst	32⅜	33	Rockwell Int	17⅞	18⅛
Am Home	68⅛	69¾	Gen Mills	48	48⅝	Royal Dutch	148⅝	149⅜
Am Int Grp	59⅝	58⅜	Gen Motors	61	62⅛	SFE Sopac	48⅜	48⅝
Am Stand	37⅛	37⅜	Gen Pub Ut	25⅜	25⅜	Sara Lee	34⅝	36⅛
Am Telph	28⅜	28⅝	Genesco	3⅜	3⅜	Schlumbo	28⅝	29¾
Amoco Cp	64⅞	65⅝	Georgia Pac	33⅛	33⅝	Scott Pap	67⅜	68⅛
Armco Steel	10⅝	11	Gillette	31⅛	31⅜	Seagram	55⅝	57¾
Asarco Inc	26¼	27¼	Goodrich	35⅝	36⅞	Sears Roeb	53⅜	54⅛
Ashland Oil	58⅜	59⅝	Goodyear	59⅝	61	Shell Trans	71	71⅝
Atl Richfld	65⅛	66¾	Gould Inc	11	11⅜	Singer	49⅛	50⅞
Avon Prod	24¾	24½	Grace Co	23⅞	24⅝	Smith Beck	46⅜	47¾
Bk Boston	22⅝	21⅞	Grt Atl Pac	33⅜	35⅛	Sony Cp	38	38⅝
Bank NY	26	25⅞	Grayfrid	25¼	25	Sth Cal Ed	30⅜	30⅞
Bankamer	6⅝	7⅜	Grumman	19¾	19¾	SW Bell	34¾	35⅛
Bkrs Tst NY	28⅛	27⅞	Gulf & West	73¾	72⅝	Sperlchy	57⅜	59⅜
Banter	22⅝	22⅝	Heinz	47	47	Stant Corp	51	50⅞
Beth Steel	17¼	17⅛	Hercules	45⅝	47	Stevens JP	28⅝	28⅝
Boeing	36⅞	37⅜	Hewlett Pk	55⅝	57⅜	Sun Comp	49⅝	51⅛
Boise Casc	67	67	Honeywell	56⅝	58⅝	TRW Inc	47	48⅜
Borden	48½	49⅜	IC Ind	30⅝	31⅞	Tektronx	305	308⅝
Bristl Meyr	43¾	44¼	ITT Cp	44⅝	47	Tenneco	41¼	42
BP	51⅛	52⅛	INCO	19⅝	19⅞	Texaco	35⅞	36⅝
Brunswick	14⅜	15	Ing Rand Wl	34⅜	33⅝	Tex Eastn	21⅞	22⅜
Burl Ind	n.a	n.a	Inland Steel	28⅜	29⅜	Texas Inst	49⅜	48⅞
Burl Nth	62¾	64½	IBM	115	119	Tex Util	26⅝	26⅝
CBS	152	151½	Int Paper	43	44⅜	Textron	19⅝	21⅛
CMS Engy	13⅝	13⅜	Irving Bk	42¼	43	Travelers	33⅞	34½
CPC Int	42	41⅝	Jhan & Jhan	77¾	79⅜	USG	31	32
CSX Cp	29⅜	29	K Mart	29⅝	29⅞	USX Cp	28⅝	30⅜
Campbell Sp	54	55	Kaiserach	11	10⅞	Unilever Plc	37⅜	37⅞
Can Pacific	15⅞	16⅜	Kerr McGee	31⅝	33	Un Carbide	21⅜	22⅝
Caterpillar	61	61½	Kimbly Clrk	49⅞	51½	Un Pac Cp	52⅜	52½
Centrl SW	25⅜	25⅜	Kraft	48⅝	50⅛	Unisys Cp	33⅛	33⅞
Champion	34⅜	34⅛	Kroger	24⅞	25⅜	Utd Brands	45	44½
Chase Man	20⅜	20⅛	LTV Cp	2⅜	2⅝	Utd Tech	33⅜	34⅛
Chem NY	21⅜	21⅛	Litton	70	69⅝	Unocal	26⅝	26⅝
Chevron	37⅛	38⅛	Lockheed	36⅝	36⅝	Walter Jim	59⅜	59¾
Chrysler	22⅜	23⅛	Lucky Str	25⅞	25⅝	Warn Lamb	67⅜	68⅛
Citicorp	17⅜	17⅞	Man H'nvr	24⅛	24⅛	Wells Far	40¾	39⅛
Clark Eq	25⅛	25⅞	Manville	2¾	2⅝	Westg El	49⅝	49⅞
Coca Cola	38¾	40	Marpco	47	46⅝	Weyerhsr	39⅜	40¾
Colgate	38⅜	37⅞	Marine Mid	83⅜	83⅜	Whirlpool	23⅛	24
Colonial Gas	39⅝	41⅜	Mt Manfata	41⅜	41⅝	Woolworth	33⅜	32⅝
Comb'tn Eng	29	28⅝	Masco	22⅝	23	Xerox Cp	56⅞	58⅜
Comwith Ed	28⅛	28⅝	Mcdonalds	43¾	44⅜	Zenith	15	15⅛
Cons Edis	43	43⅜	McDonnell	57⅝	58⅝			
Consol Ng	37⅞	37¾	Mead Cp	32¾	32⅝			
Cont Data	22⅜	21⅝	Merck	157⅛	160⅜			
Corning Gl	50⅛	51⅝	Minstr Mog	61⅞	64⅛			
Crane	21½	21⅜	Mobil	36	37⅛			
Curtiss Wrt	47	48⅜	Monsanto	78¼	79⅜			
Data Gent	23⅜	24⅛	Morgan Jp	31⅝	32⅜			
Deere Co	36⅜	37	Motorola	48⅝	49¼			
Delta Air	39⅞	40⅛	NCR	62⅝	62⅞			
Detroit Ed	13⅝	14	NL Indstrs	5¼	5⅜			
Digital Eq	133⅜	134⅛	Nat Distil	69½	70			
Disney	88⅜	89⅜	Nat Med Ent	17⅜	17⅝			
Dow Chem	88⅝	88⅞	Nat Semi	13⅜	13⅝			
Dresstr Ind	23½	23⅝	Norfolk Sth	25	27⅛			
Dupont	80⅜	82¼	NW Bancrp	37⅛	38			
Duke Pwr	42⅝	43⅝	Occid Pet	23	23⅝			
East Kodak	49⅛	50⅜	Ogden Cp	26⅜	26⅝			
Eaton Cp	77	79¾	Olin Cp	40⅜	40⅜			
Emerson El	33⅜	34⅝	PPG Ind	35	35⅞			
Emery Air	5⅛	5⅛	Pac Gas El	16⅛	16⅛			
Exxon	38⅝	40⅜	Pan Am	3¼	3⅜			
Farah Inc	7⅝	7⅝	Penney JC	45	46			
Fedders	5⅝	5⅝	Pennzoil	75⅜	75⅝			

TOKYO

US news gives bright spot in dull trading

(Reuter) – Share prices eased in listless trade but closed above earlier lows as some fresh incentives emerged, brokers said.

The Nikkei average lost 72.86 points, or 0.32 per cent, to 22,826.97. Earlier it fell to 22,739.40. The index gained 80.41 on Thursday.

Declines led advances by two to one in a turnover of 550 million shares against 500 million on Thursday. News from Washington that a tentative agreement had been reached on a $23 billion (£12.56 billion) package of tax increases over the next two years, encouraged investors.

Market sentiment was boosted by the possibility of less volatile currency movements resulting from the agreements, they added. Wall Street's heavy loss on Thursday and doubts concerning the dollar had caused the earlier fall, brokers said.

A relatively stable performance by the dollar spurred buying of blue chip stocks near the end of the day. Securities houses, pharmaceuticals, real estate, banks and gas issues led the decline.

● **Hong Kong**, Share prices closed higher on bargain hunting by local institutions and small investors, brokers said. The Hang Seng index rose 38.23 points to 2,180.46 and the broader-based Hong Kong index gained 25.11 to 1,425.36. The brokers added that there was moderate demand for blue chips.

SYDNEY

Gold stocks fade on lower oil and bullion

(Reuter) – The Australian share market closed weaker and near the day's lows, due mainly to falls in the gold and oil sectors following declines in bullion and crude oil prices, brokers said.

Industrial stocks were mixed but easier on balance as investors took profits in the transport, insurance and property sectors following gains over the last few days.

Brokers said local sentiment was dampened by a 50-point fall in the Dow Jones index, on concern over the dollar and the simultaneous expiry of options and futures – in New York later yesterday.

By the close of trade the All-Ordinaries index was down 9.7 points at 1240.8 after a 58.3 point fall in the gold index to 2071.3. Turnover was 83.9 million shares worth Aus$142.3 million (£55.36 million) and falls outnumbered rises two to one.

Gold stocks bore the brunt of the selling as bullion weakened in response to further falls in oil prices. Bullion was trading at US$484.35 an ounce against US 487.25 on Thursday. Sons of Gwalia fell 70 cents to Aus$8.80, Renison and Niugini shed 30 cents each to Aus$8.50 and Aus$5.60.

Peko-Wallsend jumped 50 cents to Aus$7.50 just before the close on a revised offer from North Broken Hill of two of its shares plus Aus$2.50 cash each Peko share. NBH fell 55 cents to Aus$2.30.

FRANKFURT

Shares slip as dollar falls to record low

(Reuter) – West German shares closed easier as worries about the dollar resurfaced in a thin market, but after a weak opening there were few further losses, dealers said.

"It was mainly small orders with no one type of seller predominating," one dealer said, adding that the cause of the selling was the dollar, fixed at a record low yesterday of DM1.6218 after DM1.6237 on Thursday.

The Commerzbank 60-share index, calculated at midsession, eased to 1,329.3, from 1,348.1 on Thursday.

The Boersen-Zeitung 30-share index ended at 276.91 after opening at 276.80 and ending Thursday at 279.81.

In cars, Porsche was particularly hard hit because of its reliance on the US market. Its shares ended at 410, 20 below Thursday's close. Daimler closed 10 lower at 603, VW was 7.50 down at 227.50 and BMW off six at 453.

Insurers were mixed, with Allianz edging two higher to 1,190 but Aachener und Münchener slipping 10 to 600.

Among retailers, Kaufhof also managed to buck the trend, climbing 5 to 417. But Karstadt fell 6.80 to 448.80.

In banks, Deutsche lost 6 to 408.50. Commerzbank fell 4 to 222.50 and Dresdner shed 4.50 to 233.

Chemicals posted only small losses. BASF lost 1.80 to 256.60, Bayer slipped 1 to 267 and Hoechst eased 3.20 to 256.80.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey	2,036	Coats	640	Land Sec	2,907	Rowntree	638
Allid-Lyons	1,932	CU	1,802	Laporte	164	Royal Bank	205
Amstrad	1,811	Cons Gold	345	L&G	935	Royal Ins	1,314
ASDA	5,302	Cookson	5,440	Lloyds	1,820	Saatchi	607
AB Foods	444	Courtaulds	703	Lonrho	560	Sainsbury	1,282
Argyll	2,533	Dalgety	291	Lucas	526	Scot & N	1,058
BAA	3,144	Dee	6,568	Magnet	1,498	Sears	3,747
BET	2,050	Dixons	825	M&S	3,902	Sedgwick	1,819
BTR	1,268	ECC	1,507	Maxwell Cm	1,302	Shell	2,330
BAT	1,787	Enterprise	2,217	MEPC	1,513	Smith & N	293
Barclays	645	Ferrans	1,066	Metal Box	3,909	STC	3,399
Bass	589	Fisons	2,209	Midland	3,019	Stan Chart	422
Beecham	1,407	Gen Acc	313	NatWest	1,252	Storehse	1,892
Beazer	429	GEC	7,324	Next	1,344	Sun Allince	194
BICC	1,416	Glaxo	2,548	Nth Food	691	T & N	286
Blue Arrow	4,175	Globe	1,050	P&O	1,896	Tarmac	739
Blue Circle	1,192	Granada	415	Pearl	821	Tate & Lyle	254
BOC	352	Grand Met	3,858	Pearson	920	TSB	3,000
Boots	1,900	GUS 'A'	65	Pilkington	5,560	Tesco	3,529
BPB	1,938	GRE	324	Plessey	6,636	Thorn EMI	845
Br Aero	3,052	GKN	1,820	Prudential	521	Trafalgar	1,237
Br Airways	5,389	Guinness	4,856	Racal	4,009	THF	4,193
Br Comm	1,530	Hamm 'A'	709	Rk Hovis	86	Ultramar	1,826
Br Gas	11,671	Hanson	9,507	Rank	356	Unigate	232
Br Petrol	12,248	Hawker	1,452	R&C	223	Unilever	2,225
Br Telecm	4,482	Hawley	4,613	Redland	426	United Bis	1,592
Britoil	106,074	Hillsdown	2,132	Reed	1,824	Utd News	346
Bunzl	587	IMI	452	Reuters	1,065	Wellcome	2,378
Burmah	472	ICI	1,357	RMC Gp	702	Whitbrd	831
Burton	7,873	Jaguar	2,762	RTZ	592	Wilks Feb	1,942
C&W	2,263	Lasmo	1,720	R-Royce	7,653	Woolworth	1,290
Cadbury	4,825	Ladbroke	3,137	Rothmn 'B'	619	Equities page 27	

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Aid Restaurants	61
Brit Pet P/P	70½
Butte Mining (100p)	125 +5
Eurotunnel	243 –2
Eurotunnel Wrnts	14½
Fairway London	75
Gaelic Res	5 +½
Hard Rock Cafe	125 +3
Do 'A'	83
How Group	77 +6
ISA Intl (80p)	96 +5
Intl Colour	98 –2
Lloyd Thomp (170p)	142 –5
Mayne Nickless	170
Nestor-BNA (75p)	78
Paragon Comms	88
Power Corp	85
Record (88p)	56
Rolls-Royce (170p)	120 +1
Rural Plan	86
Sec Archives	145 –3
Shaftsbury (180p)	115 +2
Shorco	104
Sykes-Pickavant	118
Tomorrows Leisure	31
Tubular Exhib	20 –1
URS Intl	46
USDC Inv	108
Wilshaw Secs	27 –1
Zetters Leis	128

RIGHTS ISSUES

Apld Holographc N/P	29 +7
Bloisolates N/P	2½ –½
Biomechanics N/P	11 –1
City & For N/P	¾
ERA Gp N/P	33
Gr West 6% N/P	
Lendu Hldgs N/P	13

(Issue price in brackets).

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Calls Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Allid Lyon (*352)	300	55	67	73	3	9	17
	330	30	45	56	10	20	28
	360	15	30	40	23	33	45
Bass (*821)	750	85	122	145	12	32	47
	800	50	92	118	30	50	70
	850	27	65	95	57	78	97
Brit Air (*158)	140	19	29	35	6	11	17
	160	8	20	26	14	20	24
	180	4	12	18	28	33	38
Brit Cem (*315)	280	50	60	75	5	15	22
	300	35	45	65	12	22	30
	330	15	30	42	28	37	42
Brit Gas (*124)	120	11	15	21	5	8	12
	130	5	11	15	11	15	18
	140	–	6	10	–	23	24
BP (*237)	220	30	38	45	6	13	19
	240	15	25	35	14	26	32
	260	7	16	25	35	38	42
Britoil (*409)	360	68	85	105	20	35	45
	390	45	73	85	23	58	50
	420	35	58	67	40	50	75
Cons Gold (*910)	900	85	135	175	80	115	155
	950	60	105	150	85	150	195
	1000	40	75	115	130	180	230
Courtauld (*345)	300	53	70	78	5	13	22
	330	30	50	60	11	26	38
	360	12	33	45	28	43	55
	390	5	23	35	50	60	72
Com Union (*357)	330	35	48	60	10	23	30
	360	18	32	45	29	37	43
	390	10	23	35	49	58	63
C & W (*323)	280	50	63	72	5	12	20
	300	33	52	60	11	18	28
	330	17	38	45	22	33	37
	360	9	20	35	47	47	59
GEC (*159)	140	23	30	36	3	7	12
	160	9	17	24	9	16	19
	180	4	10	16	24	30	34
GKN (*309)	240	67	75	80	2	10	15
	280	49	58	68	4	16	22
	280	34	46	47	9	23	30
	300	21	35	46	16	33	40
Grand Met (*424)	360	70	75	88	3	13	18
	390	45	55	70	9	23	28
	420	25	40	55	20	35	42
	450	10	25	48	43	58	65
ICI (*1097)	950	153	178	205	8	40	57
	1000	113	142	178	16	57	78
	1050	78	113	155	30	82	92
	1100	49	92	130	55	107	123
Jaguar (*289)	260	50	60	72	7	16	25
	280	33	47	57	12	25	35
	300	21	35	47	22	35	45
Land Sec (*462)	420	55	67	80	12	32	50
	440	39	50	57	25	37	55
	460	30	38	38	4	8	11
M & S (*181)	160	26	36	38	4	8	11
	180	12	22	26	11	18	22
	200	4	13	20	24	28	30
R-Royce (*121)	100	24	28	32	2	6	10
	110	15	22	28	4	11	14
	120	9	17	24	7	16	19
	130	6	12	18	16	22	23
Sainsbury (*222)	200	28	37	44	5	10	16
	220	15	25	33	10	19	25
	240	6	17	24	24	31	37
Shell (*975)	950	60	95	117	27	60	90
	1000	32	70	97	60	97	120
	1050	15	50	78	98	145	145
Storehse (*283)	220	45	55	65	3	9	11
	240	30	43	52	7	15	18
	260	18	32	40	16	22	25
Trafalgar (*317)	280	9	22	30	27	35	37
	300	28	40	52	12	28	32
	330	15	26	37	30	37	50
TSB (*107)	100	11	16	20	3	6	9
	110	5	10	14	8	11	13
	120	3	7	10	16	19	32
Woolworth (*239)	240	18	30	40	15	30	32
	260	10	23	30	40	50	60
	280	4	15	20	40	70	80
	300	2	10	15	75	80	90

	Calls Series	May	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
De Beers (*1000)	950	125	160	200	60	75	100
	1000	98	135	175	80	100	120
	1050	77	113	153	105	130	145
	1100	58	95	–	140	160	–
Hanson (*133)	110	26	30	–	3½	6	–
	120	19	24	28	7	15	30
	130	13	18	23	11	15	18
	140	8	14	18	17	21	24
Lonrho (*231)	200	42	47	–	12	17	–
	220	28	37	43	18	25	30
	240	20	28	33	30	35	41
	260	14	20	–	44	49	–
Midland (*365)	330	57	67	–	15	25	–
	360	40	50	60	32	37	45
	390	26	36	47	50	55	62
Sears (*127)	120	18	24	28	7	11	15
	130	12	17	20	13	18	19
	140	8	13	15	19	25	27
Tesco (*153)	140	24	30	35	7	11	15
	150	13	20222	18	24	24	
	160	–	15	18	–	37	40
Thorn EMI (*536)	480	95	117	–	16	23	–
	500	65	92	107	30	40	45
	550	37	64	75	48	65	70
	600	19	32	–	87	98	–
THF (*280)	180	55	60	–	5	8	–
	200	38	47	55	11	15	17
	220	25	35	42	18	22	30
Unilever (*515)	430	115	125	–	10	20	–
	460	85	100	120	18	33	45
	500	55	77	100	33	50	60
Wellcome (*381)	360	55	72	90	25	32	47
	390	44	57	74	42	52	62
	420	28	45	63	60	70	80

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA (*98)	80	19	26	30	3	7	11
	90	14	20	25	7	10	13
	100	9	15	18	12	16	19
Brit Aero (*325)	300	47	55	63	17	25	33
	330	30	38	47	30	40	48
	350	18	27	–	40	60	–
BAT Ind

هكذا من الاصل

Cadbury spends £95m on French chocolate factories

By Cliff Feltham

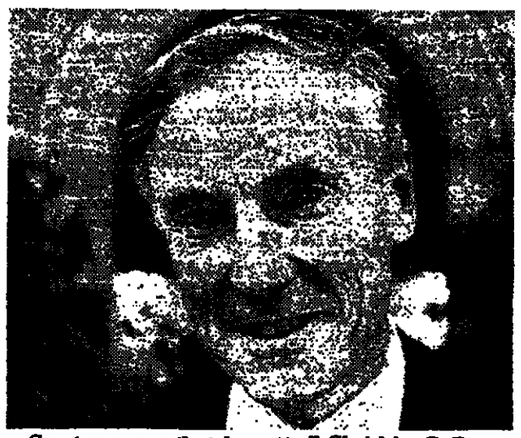
Cadbury Schweppes, the chocolate and soft drinks group which is facing a potential takeover bid from the big American General Cinema conglomerate, is pressing ahead with its own expansion programme overseas.

In a £95 million deal, the British confectionery group is taking over Chocolat Poulain, one of the leading French manufacturers of branded chocolate products.

Last year, Chocolat Poulain, which employs about 750 people in two factories at Blois, outside Paris, earned approximately £5.58 million on turnover of £84.7 million. Tangible assets were £15.2 million.

The takeover is the latest in a series by the British group aimed at building up its two core businesses, confectionery and soft drinks.

"The acquisition of Chocolat Poulain represents a significant step forward in the company's confectionery strategy and an expansion in the confectionery market in France, where Cadbury has *historically had a small* presence and where Chocolat Poulain has been an established manufacturer since 1848," the group said.



Sweet success on the takeover trail: Sir Adrian Cadbury

Chocolat Poulain is estimated to have roughly 17 per cent of the French market for moulded bars and other chocolate products. But it is a much more influential force in the market for chocolate-based drinks, accounting for about 23 per cent of current sales.

Cadbury Schweppes has been anxious to increase its sales throughout Europe in both areas and the acquisition is expected to provide a platform for other takeovers within these sectors.

The company stressed yesterday that the takeover of Chocolat Poulain was not a defensive move aimed at frustrating an eventual takeover bid from General Cinema.

"We always intended to build up our core businesses and this is what we are doing," a spokesman said. "We have had no contact with General Cinema."

The American group launched a dawn raid on Cadbury Schweppes last month to lift its total holding to 18.2 per cent, increasing speculation that the British group's days of independence could be numbered.

However, this does not seem to have hindered the plans of Sir Adrian Cadbury, the chairman, who has been busy on the acquisition trail. These have included an Australian soft drinks group, an American supplier of cocktail mixers, and Red Cheek, the US apple juice firm bought from the Hereford cider maker HP Bulmer.

On the stock market, Cadbury Schweppes shares ended the session at 255p, up 1p yesterday.

Power producers fear sale 'sham'

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Britain's independent electricity producers yesterday called on the Government to ensure that they were paid a "fair" price for their power and to prevent the privatization of the electricity supply industry becoming "a sham."

The Association of Independent Electricity Producers said that last week's changes to the bulk supply tariff (BST) announced by the Central Electricity Generating Board would not, as claimed, benefit the private producers.

Mr George Rufford, association chairman, said the net result of the changes to the BST and the decision of Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, to raise the CEGB's financial target, would be that the CEGB would still be paid 30 per cent more than independent producers.

The association was disturbed that a marginal improvement in the BST was being presented by the CEGB as a major effort to encourage competition.

At a meeting yesterday with Sir Philip Jones, chairman of the Electricity Council, Mr Rufford made clear the association's disquiet that the BST change had been announced before the CEGB consulted the council, the Electricity Consumers' Council or the Department of Energy.

"This does not augur well for a privatized industry in which the CEGB may be left largely intact."

The private power producers generate about 1,000 megawatts a year, about the same amount as that produced by a power station such as Sizewell, from various sources including landfill gas, tidal, water and wind power.

The association claims that excluding non-CEGB nuclear generated electricity, the independents accounted for 0.35 per cent of the country's total electricity demand with the bulk being consumed in members' own operations.

Mr Rufford said that Sir Philip had declined to reveal details of a recent report on the BST prepared by Price Waterhouse, the accountant, which the association believes *justifies a much higher price* for independent producers. Mr Miles Green of the CEGB said later: "We believe that average 11 per cent increase in the BST will give the independent producers a fair return without being to the disadvantage of electricity consumers."

COMMENT

Bent on thwarting British and best

Without the British Government – albeit one of a different stamp – British Petroleum might never have seen the light of day, let alone become the biggest all-British company. Three quarters of a century later, Sir Peter Walters, the chairman of BP, must think of today's British Government as an unfair burden that no other leading multinational company has to bear.

In the space of a few months, the Government has turned a BP rights issue into a national event, damaged the group's name in the capital markets for years ahead and, in selling its own shareholding, has unwittingly left Kuwait as the biggest shareholder.

The Government share sale was based around an advertising campaign designed to portray BP as embodying everything that was British and best. Yet now, senior Cabinet ministers seem bent on thwarting this same company's attempt to increase its interest in Britain's own North Sea.

It is hard to make sense of Nigel Lawson's statement yesterday that he would exercise the rights of the Treasury's golden share in Britoil to prevent BP taking control of the board if its takeover bid succeeded. Mr Lawson is a former Energy Secretary as familiar with the privatization of Britoil as of Enterprise Oil.

The launch of Enterprise saw the first exercise of a golden share. The issue flopped, RTZ bought up Enterprise shares from underwriters but the Government vetoed RTZ control.This was easy to understand. The object was to float Enterprise as an independent entity with a widespread public shareholding, even though it might have fetched a higher price in other ways.

That is hardly a precedent for Britoil, since a wide spread of shareholders can make their own choice in what BP and Britoil regard as changed circumstances. Nor can it relate to the future of Enterprise since that golden share can be redeemed at the end of 1988.

Motives will inevitably be teased out over the coming weeks since BP has opted to see the Treasury's hand by pushing ahead with its bid. Pending a ruling by the Takeover Panel, it intends to buy the whole of Britoil's capital and, in a free market, is likely to succeed even if Arco (also covered by the Treasury warning) still braves a counter offer.

BP maintains that it is not defying the Government. In this, it is relying on its experience of a controlling government shareholding in the past. Under the Bradbury rules, the state nominated two BP directors, but they did not act as government agents and the state did not interfere. BP would not mind, it innocently maintains, if the Treasury kept control of the Britoil board, since it would want to act in shareholders' interests.

The Treasury's intention may not, be as clear as it seems. A warning directed principally at Arco would not make sense. Britoil, as the former British National Oil Corporation, once had a special position in the North Sea. But that status is long past, persist as it may in the minds of some Labour MPs. If the intention is to maintain the independent North Sea sector, action will need to go beyond the Treasury to other *departments*.

There might be references of BP's bid (together with the French Elf offer for Tricentrol) to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. And the Department of Energy could make threats about North Sea licences.

By the time the BP offer for Britoil closes, the public sector is again likely to be a substantial shareholder in BP. On present prices, the Bank of England guarantee on the new BP shares will be taken up by most holders, except the Kuwaitis. A veto on BP control of Britoil would then take on an even more odd dimension.

Now the good news

The gilt-edged market, for once, responded in the right way yesterday to a genuine piece of good news. The November money supply figures contained no nasties. Set against gloomy fears of £6 billion or £7 billion bank lending growth, this in itself was a source of considerable relief.

Annual growth in M3 of more than 21 per cent cannot be entirely regarded as comforting news. But even that was better than almost 23 per cent a month ago.

The best news for the market was not in the stability of the aggregates or even that bank lending growth, at £3.2 billion, was below its average of the previous three months. It was, instead, the return of domestic buyers to the market, in net terms, for the first time for many a month.

It can be surmised that this buying was mainly in the earlier part of last month, following the first two of the three half-point base rate cuts since the October stock market crash. Even so, healthy demand for the convertible tap this week suggests that there is life in the gilt-edged market yet.

The new factor is the tumbling oil price. Opec's inconclusive agreement and the subsequent fall in spot prices has come at just the right time for the US bond market, where the old worries about inflation were resurfacing fast. Yesterday, the long bond yield fell below 9 per cent, adding further aid for gilt-edged.

For both Britain and the US, the clutch of recent economic data points to economic growth that is a little too fast for bond market comfort. The fall in world oil prices provides additional reason to believe that inflationary fears have been overstated.

Woolworth dispute settled

The dispute between Woolworth and Mr Malcolm Parkinson, the former director of the company, has been resolved.

The company sought and obtained an injunction against Mr Parkinson on Tuesday, preventing him from revealing any confidential information.

A joint statement last night said: "Mr Parkinson has strongly denied from the outset that he was responsible for the leak of any confidential information or documents.

"He reaffirmed when he left Woolworths in November that he would never disclose *any confidential information*, and has now given the court an undertaking to the same effect. Woolworths has therefore agreed to the injunction against Mr Parkinson being discharged.

"The parties having thus agreed to resolve their differences, it has been accepted *by each of them that it would* be inappropriate for either to make any further statement on this dispute.

The injunctions obtained against the *Evening Standard* and Mr Stephen Hargrave, a journalist with the *Evening Standard*, remain in force, the statement said.

City funds call for a better system of share dealing

By Lawrence Lever

Three-quarters of the investment institutions interviewed by Rosters, the financial publisher, complained of dealing problems during and after the October market crash.

The financial institutions surveyed included Abbey Life, Allied Dunbar, Barclays Unicorn, Fidelity, Gartmore, Henderson, Mercury, NM Schroder, Save & Prosper, Standard Life and TSB.

Their complaints focus on the lack of marketability of second and third-line stocks, the inability to deal in size and the widening of spreads in the crash.

Rosters says "the majority" of institutions interviewed wanted to see the share-dealing system improved. And one wanted to see "greater control by the Stock Exchange to enforce willingness to deal in size."

Another wanted to see "less herd-like marking down of prices by just watching screens." Also recommended was "better training for market-makers so that the inexperienced are not exposed to market conditions unless they are confident in handling large volumes."

Providing volume figures for beta stocks was suggested. Volume figures for beta stocks are published in the Stock Exchange Daily Official List the day after the trade.

Another recommendation was for quicker settlement, fewer but larger market-makers, less trading between market-makers and a genuine commitment to making a market rather than simply matching buyers and sellers and then taking a turn.

BHP rises 20% at half time

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Strong oil and mineral prices enabled BHP, Australia's biggest company, to report its best half-year result since November 1985.

Net attributable profits for the six months to November 30 were Aus$479.1 million (£182.8 million), a rise of 20.7 per cent on the previous first-half result of Aus$397 million.

A fully-franked interim dividend of 15 cents out of earnings a share of 30.6 cents, up 5.2 cents, was declared.

The result, the first by a leading company to include the post-crash period, was in line with market expectations.

BHP shares, however, closed 4 cents lower at Aus$6.50. The reaction was attributed to *unstable oil prices*.

BHP said the increase was due to management changes, reduced costs, higher production and crude oil prices.

Mr Brian Loton, the managing director, said he was delighted with the second-quarter profit of Aus$254.6 million, 7 per cent up on the first quarter.

"We have been able to sell every ounce, tonne, barrel of everything we have been able to produce," he said, "although the prices were not what we may have wished."

Revenue rose a modest 10 per cent to Aus$4.85 billion.

Mr Loton said the world steel industry had picked up and he expected BHP to benefit from the "dramatic" restructuring of Japanese industry.

TEMPUS

An industrial revolution that is polishing the image of RTZ

RTZ Corporation's revised 700p a share cash offer for MK Electric proves the point that in bid situations it is often very profitable to ignore the opening shot and wait. Especially when the bidder leaves the market in no doubt that it is determined to have its prey.

RTZ's enthusiasm for MK, for which it first offered 550p a share, only to be topped by Legrand at 660p, which it then trumped at 700p, stems from the quiet revolution which has been taking place within RTZ which in turn has put a new, and refreshing, complexion on the group as an investment.

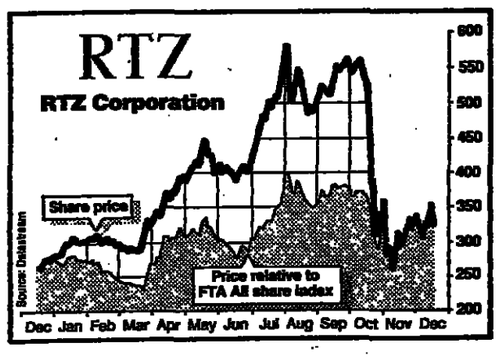
Behind the scenes, and with a board slimmed from 26 to 12, RTZ has been mapping out prospective bid candidates in areas in which it has some experience, and which can be identified as solid additions to its related industrial activities.

MK is the latest, but not the last, example of how the tentacles have spread into areas where there is still market and product potential. MK is essentially British-based, but there are obvious geographical ambitions to be realized once it is fully under the RTZ *umbrella*.

By yesterday RTZ held a 38.7 per cent stake in MK, and with firm recommendations by both bidder and bid-for to accept the deal, the deal is effectively all over bar the shouting.

As a measure of RTZ's quiet acquisition policy, the group has now spent £1.25 billion on a mixture of industrial and natural resources-mining acquisitions in the past 36 months.

Meanwhile, its other interests have continued to forge ahead. The speciality chemicals division has in five years grown from an operation with an annual turnover of £40 million to a division with an annual turnover of £450 million. In North America, through its Indal company, RTZ now has a $1 billion finger in the construction pie.



In investors' eyes, RTZ is still largely regarded as a mining group first with industrial interests tagged on.

But the divisional profits breakdown of the past two financial years shows that the profits wagon is firmly hitched to the industrial sector. Its profit contribution has comfortably outstripped that of the group's natural resources/mining interests, and looks like remaining the lead runner for a while yet. In the six months to June 30, the wide ranging industrial interests accounted for 60 per cent of the group's attributable profit.

Natural resource/mining interests remain an important feature of RTZ, giving it positions in coal, uranium, oil, aluminium, copper, gold, iron ore, lead and zinc, steel and tin.

There comes a time in the life of every metal when prices have their run, and though base and precious metals rarely dance in tune, RTZ's spread does at least ensure some fun out the metal sector.

While certain metals have only recently started to shine, RTZ can clearly look forward to reporting higher average metal prices come the year end, which will be a good start to 1988.

Mining interests are still dear to RTZ's heart, and further opportunities will be seized, though the investment spotlight currently centres on the industrial side – especially because of fears of knock-on effects stemming from any worldwide economic slowdown.

However, MK should prove defensive to RTZ, and even before the 700p bid was put on the table, the electrical group was forecasting a positive outlook. Meanwhile, the rest of RTZ looks in good enough shape to see year-end net attributable profits at £270 million against £244.8 million. This translates into net earnings of 34.9p a share compared with 31.6p.

There is an historical pattern which suggests RTZ shares rise pre-Christmas until Easter, when year-end results are to hand. With the shares down quite sharply in the market shakeout to 328p, to trade on 9.4 times prospective earnings, shopping early for Easter with RTZ in mind could prove a worthwhile exercise.

TR Technology Investment Trust

TR Technology Investment Trust, managed by Touche Remnant, is engaged in a battle with its largest shareholder, Firmandale Investments, a Jersey company.

Firmandale is pressing TRT to come up with restructuring proposals aimed at reducing the discount on the trust. TRT is working on them.

Firmandale's ultimate ownership is not known. TRT has been firing off Section 212 notices and received a string of nominee names plus the odd discretionary trust.

What is known about Firmandale is that its adviser is Berkeley Govett, whose chairman, Mr Arthur Trueger, does all the talking for his client.

Until June this year, TRT and Berkeley had a close relationship. Berkeley fed unquoted companies into TRT, which gladly accepted almost all of them. That relationship has clearly broken down irretrievably.

TRT quite rightly says it is not prepared to enter into discussions with Berkeley until it knows exactly who it is dealing with and where the interests of that person or company lie.

Because of the close association between TRT and Berkeley it is difficult for both sides to attack one another's investment expertise. If TRT thinks Berkeley is lacking, why did it accept almost every company that Berkeley introduced into the trust?

Meanwhile Touche Remnant cannot really be faulted for the performance of TRT, which has a highly creditable track record. Could it maintain it without Berkeley?

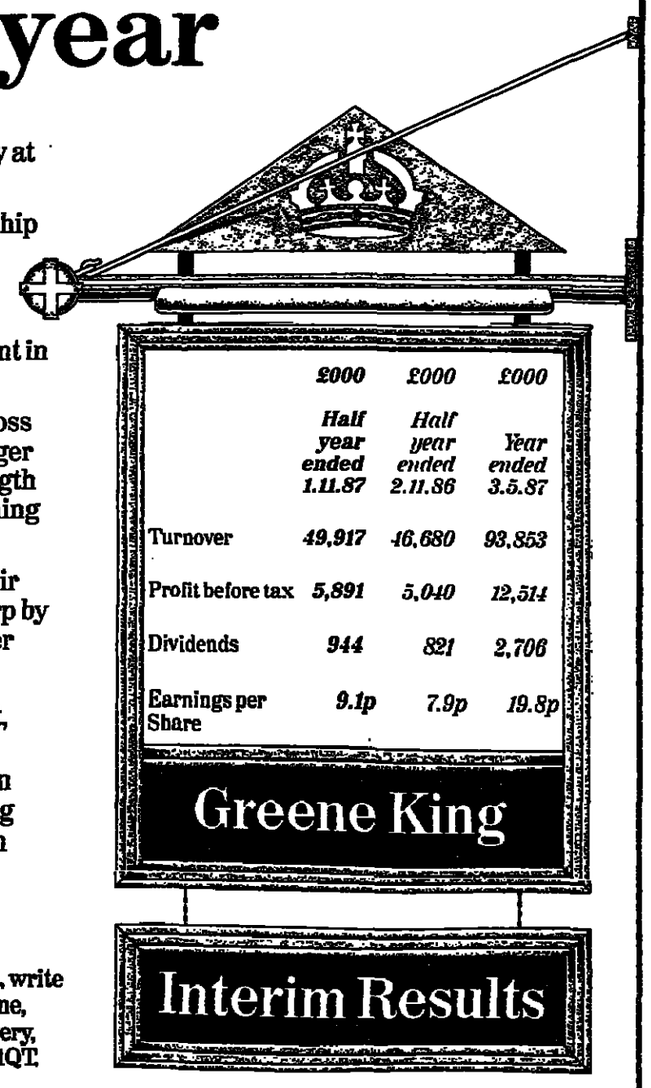
The acrimony and mud-slinging have gone too far for there to be joint management of the trust. And yet Firmandale, as owner of 27 per cent of the trust, is clearly entitled to have a large say in its future.

The solution should be to divide the trust into two separate vehicles with Berkeley/Firmandale taking the unquoted element which it introduced, with appropriate adjustments. Touche would take the rest, including the trust's stake in Touche *Remnant*.

Shareholders should be offered an amount of cash which takes into account the limitations of the unquoted investments. Then perhaps the sniping will stop and fund management will begin again.

The signs show that Greene King are on course for another record year

- Half-year profits up sharply at trading and pre-tax levels.
- Sales of Abbot Ale, the flagship brand, continue to make headway.
- Continued significant contribution from investment in The Harp Lager Company.
- Volume sales advanced across the broad range of Harp Lager brands with premium strength Kronenbourg 1664 maintaining impressive growth.
- Greene, King confirmed their long term confidence in Harp by deciding to brew Harp Lager from October 1989.
- With a strong balance sheet, positive cash flow and the advantage of operating in an economically fast expanding region, the Directors remain confident about full year prospects.



	£000 Half year ended 1.11.87	£000 Half year ended 2.11.86	£000 Year ended 3.5.87
Turnover	49,917	46,680	93,853
Profit before tax	5,891	5,040	12,514
Dividends	944	821	2,706
Earnings per Share	9.1p	7.9p	19.8p

Greene King

Interim Results

For copies of the Interim Report, write to the Company Secretary, Greene, King & Sons plc, Westgate Brewery, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1QT.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
0345 717373 (Lo-call)

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Gilt & Fixed	109.4	117.6p	-0.9	9.35
Hi Inc Equity	110.1	117.1p	+0.3	5.08
Worldwide Bd	107.4	200.6p	+2.9	4.54
American Gth	122.1	130.5	+0.3	1.34
Asian Pacific	50.10	53.60p	+3.53	2.58
Assets & Earns	119.8	127.4p	+0.7	2.24
Capital Res	75.2	75.8	-0.9	1.33
Comm Energy	97.2	103.9	-1.9	1.10
Euro Capital	82.6	88.1	+1.2	1.12
General	140.1	149.8	+3.6	3.00
Japan	79.4	84.9	+1.5	..
UK Gth Inc	113.6	120.8	+10.8	1.99
Do Acc	163.7	176.2	+14.1	1.37
US Emerg Co	39.4	34.5p	+4.3	0.00
Income Gth	217.2	232.2	+5.8	4.09
Master Acc	82.5	86.8	+1.6	3.11
American Inc	38.3	40.9	+0.6	6.41
Ethical Tst	37.6	39.9	+1.6	3.13

AETNA UNIT TRUSTS LTD
491, St. John Street London EC1V 4QE
01-837 9494

Euro Gth Acc	99.2	105.8	+2.2	1.19
Exempt	334.4	355.2p	+14.2	5.20
Far Eastern	175.0	187.7	+4.4	0.19
Fin & Prop	72.4	75.7	+3.3	2.82
Hi Yield	66.2	70.1	+2.2	5.37
Income & Gth	278.2	294.7p	+12.3	4.82
Inc Earnings	164.4	174.2	+5.3	5.13
Int Growth Inc	192.4	204.1	+1.3	0.24
Japan Gth Acc	132.3	141.4	+0.1	0.20
N Amer Gth Inc	102.4	109.5	+2.8	2.76
Preference Inc	123.4	130.7	+0.5	9.60
Smlr Co Div Inc	82.5	87.4	+2.7	1.85
Smlr Co Gth	202.7	260.1	+5.0	1.57
Special Sits Inc	115.1	121.9p	+3.0	1.57
UK Growth	345.7	366.2	+16.9	3.49

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
0793 28291 Dealing 0793 610366

High Income	276.2	292.8	+8.7	4.98
Equity Inc	139.5	169.1	+5.0	5.45
High Yield	169.8	170.4p	+5.0	5.45
Balanced	377.5	400.1p	+11.5	3.99
Amer Inc	24.8	26.4	+0.5	4.61
World Ass Val	22.4	23.9	+0.5	1.34
Japan	121.4	129.4p	+1.5	0.01
Spc of Amer	46.8	150.4p	+5.8	1.56
Asset Value	257.1	263.1p	+10.0	3.63
O'seas Earn	188.0	199.3p	+5.5	3.51
Recovery	95.0	100.7	+2.2	2.86
UK Spec Sit	225.6	239.1	+7.2	2.86
Gilt & Fixed	153.6	163.0	+5.5	2.18
Capital	229.9	239.5	+5.8	3.24
Amer Spec Sit	50.3	53.5	+1.7	2.00
International	83.6	88.6	+1.6	1.77
Growth & Inc	140.0	148.4	+4.5	3.77
Euro Gth	17.1	18.2	+0.2	2.59
Pacific	181.7	193.5p	+3.1	0.52
2nd Smlr Co	192.2	203.7	+5.1	2.14

BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS
20, Chiswell Street, London EC1
01-374 6801

American	35.7	38.1	+1.2	2.39
Australian	15.3	16.4	+0.4	2.08
Japan & Gen	141.4	150.5	+2.3	0.63
High Income	49.0	52.1p	+1.6	6.08
International	73.5	78.2	+1.4	0.68
Income Growth	57.6	61.3	+1.9	4.57
Gilt/Fixed Inc	21.9	23.4	+0.2	10.31
Global Inc	31.0	33.1	+0.5	1.82
Spec Sit	54.2	57.8	+2.3	1.55

BARCLAYS UNICORN
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7
01-534 5344

Capital	72.1	76.7	+2.3	3.34
Euro Gth Inc	57.3	60.9	+2.3	2.06
Extra Income	85.7	92.2	+2.8	5.21
General	151.0	159.0	+5.6	3.50
Gilt & Fixed Inc	132.6	139.6	+4.6	9.26
Income Tst	389.1	392.6	+14.6	4.26
Int Income	45.1	47.9p	-0.4	5.04
Smlr Co Inc	33.2	35.3	+0.1	1.53

BARING FUND MANAGERS
PO Box 1566, Buckenham, Kent BR3 4XX
01-658 3992

Australia	49.0	54.2	-2.0	0.00
Eastern	54.3	58.8p	+3.3	0.00
Equity Inc	61.8	65.7	+1.3	6.10
Europe	105.3	113.0p	+3.2	0.10
Exempt Tst	51.1	54.3	+0.2	4.80
Growth & Inc	68.0	72.3	+1.8	2.93
Global Gth	53.0	56.3p	+1.4	0.00
Japan Spec	124.0	132.6	+5.7	0.10
Japan Sm	139.7	137.6	+5.6	0.00
First Europe	94.4	100.4	+2.7	0.10
First Japan	91.9	97.7	+3.4	0.00
First N Amer	35.1	38.4	+2.9	1.10
First Smlr Co	73.5	78.1	+2.9	1.50
N Amer Spec	35.0	37.2	+2.5	0.30
UK Growth	55.8	59.4	+2.4	4.37

BROWN SHIPLEY
9-17, Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath
0444 458144

Financial	134.0	145.6	+3.2	1.63
Smlr Co Acc	242.1	272.4	+13.1	1.40
Do Inc	160.7	174.7	+7.7	1.40
High Income	72.1	78.4	+3.5	5.12
Income	98.3	99.8	+8.8	5.05
Man Portf Inc	75.0	81.5	+5.1	2.17
Do Acc	127.1	138.1	+8.7	2.17
Nth American	41.5	45.2p	+2.2	0.21
Orient	79.4	86.3p	+4.7	0.10
Exempt	230.0	250.0p	+12.1	2.66
Recovery	54.5	59.3p	+4.3	0.25
German	22.8	24.7p	+0.6	1.49
Int Recov	21.1	22.9	-0.2	1.00
Europe	15.5	16.7	+0.2	2.07

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
The Stock Exchange London EC2P 2JT
01-588 2868 01 623 2348

Emerg Inc	..	..	..	..
Fellowship Inc	55.3	58.9	+3.3	1.70
General Inc 4	243.5	256.2p	+23.9	2.50
Do Acc 4	397.5	422.9	+38.8	2.60
Income Fd 3	121.6	128.4	+12.7	5.37
Do Acc 3	224.9	238.2	+23.4	5.37
Int Inc 2	98.4	104.2	+8.9	1.00
Do Acc 2	121.6	140.0	+15.5	1.00
Smlr Inc 5	81.5	86.7c	+3.1	1.70
Do Acc 5	87.8	93.3	-1.1	1.70

CANNON FUND MANAGERS
1, Odyssey Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB
01-902 8976

Growth	29.5	31.8s	+2.3	2.86
Income	37.5	40.4s	+2.5	4.05
Far East	23.0	24.8s	+0.6	0.25
Nth American	22.2	23.9s	+0.6	0.79
Global	37.3	40.1	+1.8	0.85
European	36.3	39.1	+2.2	1.35
Japan	72.7	78.2	+3.7	0.01

CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT
PO Box 551 6 Bevis Marks London EC3 2JQ
01-621 0011

Capital	356.1	378.9	+13.7	1.83
Income	323.3	344.0	+15.0	5.57
Nth Amer	202.2	215.2	+13.4	2.21

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
2, Fore Street, Bedlenhan EC2Y 5AQ
01-588 1815

Investment	394.9	..	..	5.22
Fixed Int	145.75	..	..	8.61
Deposit	100.0	..	..	8.56

CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ
01-588 1815

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Income	371.66	..	..	5.46
Acc	211.3499	..	..	..
Deposit	100.0	..	..	8.75

CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MNGRS
73/75 Basinghall St, London EC2V 5DP
01-606 6822
S/C Spec Sit 53.8 56.9 +0.2 0.51

CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH
0800 373393

Amer Gth	18.7	17.8	+0.6	1.15
Atlas Gth	20.5	21.8	+0.7	1.44
Dragon Gth	16.6	17.7	+1.3	2.37
Equity Hi Inc	50.3	53.5e	+1.3	5.13
European Gth	22.7	24.1	+2.0	2.01
Gen Equity	43.1	45.8	+1.5	3.12
G/F Interst Gth	31.7	33.4	-0.5	8.14
Gth & Fixed Inc	24.5	25.9e	+0.1	9.27
Int Income Tst	21.2	22.5	+0.2	5.85
Japan Gth	38.9	41.3	+0.7	0.00
Pedgree Gth	25.8	27.4	+2.1	2.45
Special Sits	31.5	33.5	+3.2	2.47

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS
St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ
01-283 7500 Dealing 01-686 9818

UK & Gen Inc	48.4	51.5p	+1.7	3.99
UK Gth	49.6	52.9e	+1.7	3.99
Income Inc	51.8	55.1e	+1.5	4.31
Do Acc	53.2	56.6e	+1.5	4.31
European	16.1	17.1	+0.1	0.66
Worldwide Inc	38.1	41.8	+1.5	1.05
Do Acc	39.2	41.8	+1.5	1.05
Gilt & Fixed	29.5	31.1	+1.2	0.90
Gilt Inc	29.5	31.1	+1.2	0.90
Do Acc	48.0	51.1	+2.0	0.87
Euro Gth	49.5	52.7	+2.0	0.00
Far East	50.6	54.0	+2.6	0.11

CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES LTD
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW
04862 6033

Amer Tst	97.0	104.9	+3.0	0.55
Canadian Gth	16.9	18.3	..	1.80
European Tst	80.2	86.7	+3.0	..
Growth Tst	234.9	253.9	+7.8	3.37
High Income	234.9	311.6	+15.2	5.23
Int Tech Tst	94.8	102.5	+4.3	..
Japanese Tst	178.7	193.2	+2.6	..

CRUSADER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Reigate, Surrey RH2 8HL
0737-242626

European Gth	45.1	48.6e	+2.6	3.00
Euro Spec Sits	92.0	34.6	+0.6	1.20
International	42.0	45.2e	+0.6	3.50
N Amer Gth	24.1	26.7	+0.9	1.00
Pacific Gth	45.9	48.4e	+1.8	4.80
UK Gth Acc	54.2	58.3	+2.9	0.50
Do Dist	52.9	56.9	+2.8	4.80
UK Income	52.9	56.9	+1.8	4.80

EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
5, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh
031-226 3462

American Fd	58.3	62.5	+2.0	1.67
Capital Fd	107.3	114.9	+4.8	1.46
Equity Inc	70.4	71.7	+1.9	2.90
Growth & Inc	156.1	162.2	+3.5	4.21
High Dist Fd	132.7	140.8e	+4.2	5.33
International	172.7	183.0	+6.3	1.22
Pacific Fd	16.1	17.1	+1.3	0.00
Resources Fd	21.0	22.3	-0.2	0.00
Smlr Cos Co	35.8	37.9	+1.1	..
Tokyo Fd	107.4	113.9	+2.1	0.00

ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
Admiral Centre
6 Hexagon House
Rochford SS4 3LB
0706 68366
Endurance 100.1 106.5 .. 1.20

EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION
Walton Street Aylesbury, HP21 7QW
0296 431480

Equit Pelican	84.3	89.7	+2.3	3.36
High Income	97.1	103.3	+2.7	4.80
G/F/Fxd Interst	51.6	54.9	+0.8	7.74
Tst Of Inv Tsts	71.5	76.1	+1.8	1.96
Spec Sits Tst	83.2	88.6	+2.5	2.68
Nth Amer Tst	46.8	49.8	+2.7	1.79
Far East Tst	37.7	40.1	+0.8	0.42
Int Growth	45.8	48.8	+1.2	1.84
European Tst	37.1	39.5	+1.8	1.77

EQUITY & LAW
St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1GD
0203 553231

UK Gth Acc	159.4	170.4	+3.5	3.66
Do Inc	133.8	143.0	+3.0	3.66
Higher Inc Acc	239.2	311.6	+7.7	4.78
Do Inc	220.7	235.3	+2.5	4.78
Gilt/Fixed Acc	107.7	113.3	-1.1	8.26
Do Inc	83.6	88.0	-0.9	8.26
N Amer Acc	95.1	102.2	+3.0	0.23
Far East Acc	175.9	188.7	+2.0	0.06
Euro Tst Acc	112.3	121.9	+3.5	1.17
Gen Tst	235.5	251.8	+6.4	3.76
Smr Excell	35.5	38.4	+0.1	3.28

EF & C UNIT MANAGEMENT LTD
1, Lawrence Postway Hill, London EC4R 0BA
01-623 4888

US Smlr Co	48.2	49.2	+3.8	0.16
UK Inc Fd	85.7	91.2	+3.4	3.92
Far East Fd	75.2	80.1	+1.9	0.00
Overseas Inc	54.7	58.2e	+1.3	4.40
Fixd Interest	56.7	60.4e	-0.6	9.77
Natural Res Fd	54.1	57.6	+2.0	3.84
European Inc	54.1	57.6	+2.0	3.84
Financials Fd	39.3	41.9	+1.4	3.57
Int Tech Fd	91.3	97.2	+4.5	0.14

FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS
150, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA
041-332 3132

Belan Gth Acc	54.1	57.7	+3.8	..
Do Inc	52.8	56.3	+3.5	0.40
Hi Yield Acc	27.9	29.7	+0.3	..
Do Inc	27.2	28.9	+0.3	5.10
Inc Gth Acc	50.7	53.9e	+1.0	..
Do Inc	45.1	48.0e	+0.9	4.00
Serv Co Acc	84.8	90.3	+2.3	..
Do Inc	75.4	80.2	+2.0	0.30
Amer Gth Acc	18.7	19.9	+1.1	..
Do Inc	18.7	19.9	+1.1	1.00
Euro Gth Acc	13.9	14.8	+0.9	..
Do Inc	13.9	14.8	+0.9	1.00

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
Rose Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY
Outlines 0800 414161

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
American	84.4	90.3	+3.9	1.23
Amer Equity Inc	94.4	100.9e	+4.1	5.05
Amer Spec Sit	34.2	36.6	+2.0	0.23
Australia	19.2	20.5	+0.2	2.15
European	45.6	48.2	+1.7	..
European Inc	19.5	20.8	+0.2	4.62
Global Conv	20.8	22.2e	+0.4	5.66
Far Eastn Inc	34.2	36.4p	+0.6	4.69
Gilt/Fxd Interest	29.5	e	-0.4	9.73
Growth & Inc	101.8	108.9e	+6.4	4.29
Japan Spec Sit	59.1	63.2	+2.1	..
Japan Gth	142.6	152.2	+2.7	..
Man Interest	105.5	116.5	+1.3	0.75
Max Inc Equity	97.8	104.7p	+8.5	5.03
Pension Mnte	37.5	40.2	+3.3	2.92
SE Asia	29.6	32.6	+1.1	0.67
Spec Sit	216.9	230.1	+12.0	0.99
Eastern Opps	19.2	20.5	+0.9	..

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ
01-628 5181

Amer/Gen Inc	137.8	145.8	+12.0	..
Do Acc	140.8	148.8	+12.1	..
Amer Tum Inc	144.8	153.2	+12.7	0.13
Do Acc	152.2	158.9	+10.6	1.03
Capital Inc	241.3	255.3	+8.4	2.32
Do Acc	297.5	314.8	+10.3	2.32
Cont/Gth Inc	96.1	101.6e	-0.1	4.50
Do Acc	135.2	143.0e	+3.1	4.50
European Inc	48.1	50.9	+1.6	0.66
Do Acc	48.3	51.1	+1.6	0.66
Extra Inc Inc	212.7	225.0	+8.3	4.73
Do Acc	236.8	250.6	+9.3	4.73
Financial Acc	36.8	38.9	+0.7	0.81
Do Inc	32.6	34.7	+0.7	0.81
Income Tst	137.9	145.9e	+5.7	4.36
Do Acc	182.3	181.1e	+8.7	4.36
Int Growth Inc	122.3	129.4	+8.3	..
Do Acc	135.8	143.7	+9.1	..
Japan/Gen Inc	98.9	105.2	+3.1	..
Do Acc	98.9	105.2	+3.0	..
Monthly Inc Fd	108.4	114.9e	+4.0	4.12
PEP 87	52.6	55.6	+2.4	2.67
Recovery	148.8	157.4	+10.4	1.58
Do Acc	182.7	172.1	+11.4	1.58
Smaller Inc	47.8	50.5	+1.2	1.98
Do Acc	47.8	50.5	+1.2	1.98

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Pixham Street, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1QA
Dealing 0222 411411 Admin 0222 411822

Equity Dist	208.3	221.1e	+7.7	2.82
Do Acc	358.4	380.4e	+13.1	2.82
Euro Gth Dist	45.8	48.6	+1.2	1.03
Do Acc	45.8	48.6	+1.2	1.03
Fixed Interest Di	114.4	121.8e	-0.7	10.19
Do Acc	144.7	153.5e	-0.8	10.19
Int Gth Dist	47.2	50.1	+0.6	1.50
Do Acc	164.8	175.0	+2.1	1.50
Nth Amer Dist	98.5	105.0	+3.1	2.45
Do Acc	99.5	105.7	+3.0	2.45
Pac Basin Dist	148.9	158.2	+9.1	0.94
Do Acc	148.1	157.4	+9.0	0.94
Shared Dist	206.2	218.9e	+9.8	1.35
Do Acc	216.0	229.3e	+10.1	1.35
Shared Inc Di	48.9	51.9	+1.4	3.66
Do Acc	51.4	57.7c	-0.6	9.02
Spec Sits Dist	61.5	65.3e	-0.5	7.97
Do Acc	34.3	36.6	+0.4	1.78

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Garmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ
01-623 1212 Dealing: 01-236 3535 Investor Services: 0800 289336

American	11.0	65.5	+1.6	0.70
Australian	18.5	19.8	-1.0	0.00
British Acc	65.1	70.0	+2.0	2.97
Do Dist	56.6	59.8	+1.7	2.97
Cnsit UK Gth	23.4	24.7	+0.7	1.92
Comind Share	58.6	60.8	..	1.00
European	41.5	44.7	+2.3	0.75
Extra Income	56.6	60.9	+2.8	4.82
Far East Tst	104.6	114.6	+3.1	0.47
Fed Interest	27.3	29.4	-0.1	8.77
Frontier Mkts	20.4	22.0	+0.7	0.00
Global Fd	148.3	157.4	+4.2	0.40
Do Dist	128.5	136.4	+3.6	0.40
Gold Shares	18.5	19.9	+0.6	0.01
Hedged Amer	28.4	30.6e	+0.7	0.50
High Income	28.7	30.9e	+1.4	5.50
Hong Kong	29.3	31.5	+0.4	3.74
Income Tst	51.5	55.4	+4.3	3.07
Int F/Interest	23.2	24.7e	-0.7	9.81
Japan Tst	115.3	123.9	+1.3	0.00
Man Exempt	241.4	251.5	+8.8	2.50
Oil & Energy	28.6	30.4	+0.5	2.50
Spec Sit	99.5	107.2	+9.5	1.29
UK Sm Co Rec	93.3	100.4	+8.3	0.30

Getmore (formerly Oppenheimer) Tst Management Ltd

Glob Inc/Gth	68.6	73.8	-1.5	3.52
Opcon Hi Inc	83.0	85.5	-0.8	7.46
Pacific Gth	41.2	45.0e	+1.0	0.00
Prefer Inc	59.3	63.5	+1.5	3.04
Do Acc	110.5	118.2	+2.7	3.04
Wrlwide Recov	79.7	85.3e	+3.1	1.86

Selected Opportunities Tsts

American	24.7	26.4	+1.0	1.40
European	52.5	56.2	+2.3	0.71
International	69.8	106.9	+2.5	1.18
Japan	94.0	100.6	+4.0	0.00
UK	54.3	58.3e	-0.4	1.13

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shackleton House, 4, Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR
01-378 7979 Dealing: 01-588 0526

Int Gth	81.3	86.5	+3.2	1.21
American Gth	49.4	52.6	+2.3	0.00
Australian Gth	54.2	57.7	+1.5	5.59
European Gth	43.5	46.5e	+0.7	1.29
Gold & Meris	56.8	60.7	..	0.55
Japan Gth	53.8	57.5e	+1.4	..
Pacific Inc	25.3	27.0	-2.6	0.78
Pacific Strat	35.3	37.7	+2.1	0.41
UK Prog Inc	65.30	69.99e	+3.99	4.33
UK Spec Opps	118.9	127.1	+4.8	0.82
UK Co Tst	211.0	221.5	..	1.70
Gl Enrgh	33.7	36.0	+1.5	1.70

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN
01-588 8903

Gt/Fxd Interest	118.3	123.0	-0.6	9.03
Gth Equity	213.4	225.9e	+11.4	2.45
Guarchil	279.0	289.1	+13.9	2.97
N American	111.6	118.2	+5.4	1.00
Pacific	219.0	231.8	+8.9	0.00

HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries 0277 227300 Dealing 0277 261018

Amer Equity Inc	45.7	49.5	+0.9	4.65
Canadian Tst	35.6	38.0p	+0.5	0.95
Equity Income	97.5	103.6e	+4.1	5.35
European Tst	74.2	78.7	+3.1	1.17
High Income	78.3	83.1	+2.5	5.63
Int Sec Tst	43.8	46.5	+1.2	1.55
Japan/F East	95.8	101.8	+1.0	0.01
N Amer Tst	48.4	51.4p	+2.3	1.38
Recov & Asset	56.9	60.4	+0.5	2.05
Scandinavian	31.8	33.8	+0.2	1.22
Smlr Co's	31.6	33.5s	+1.1	1.22
UK New Gen	33.4	37.6	+0.2	1.29

HENDERSON Premier UT Administration Admin: 5, Hobart House Brentwood Essex

Amer Recov	72.6	77.4p	+5.1	0.00
Australian	31.4	33.5	+4.5	0.00
Best of World	47.4	48.8	+3.4	2.48
Cap Gth Inc	65.7	71.1	+2.4	2.28
Do Acc	188.4	196.5	+7.6	0.92
Europ Inc Tst	39.4	40.9	+0.4	5.51
Euro Smlr Co	69.2	73.8	+2.4	0.00
Extra Income	212.1	225.8p	+17.0	5.73
Financial	144.2	153.6p	+3.3	2.53
Fixed Interest	55.8	59.8p	-0.4	9.03
Gilt Tst	39.7	42.3	-1.0	7.15
Global Health	69.2	74.4	+0.7	0.00
Global Incr/Gth	63.2	67.9	+2.2	0.00
Global Recov	63.2	66.8	+3.0	0.00
Global Tech	63.9	68.6	+3.5	0.00
Gold	42.4	45.2	+1.9	0.00
High Income	215.8	230.1e	+14.5	4.66
Hong Kong	45.5	48.9	+2.9	0.85
Inc & Gth Inc	164.1	175.0p	+5.1	2.95
Int Gth Dist	47.2	50.1	+0.6	1.50
Do Acc	164.8	175.0	+2.1	1.50
Nth Amer Dist	98.5	105.0	+3.1	2.45
Pac Basin Dist	148.9	158.2	+9.1	0.94
Do Acc	148.1	157.4	+9.0	0.94
Shared Dist	206.2	218.9e	+9.8	1.35
Do Acc	216.0	229.3e	+10.1	1.35
Shared Inc Di	48.9	51.9	+1.4	3.66
Do Acc	51.4	57.7c	-0.6	9.02
Spec Sits Inc	61.5	65.3e	-0.5	7.97
Do Acc	34.3	36.6	+0.4	1.78

HILL SAMUEL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Hill Samuel, Addiscombe Road, Croydon
01-686 4355 01-628 9011

British Units	55.8	59.8e	+1.8	3.58
Capital Units	100.9	108.1	+2.9	2.60
Dollar Units	69.3	74.2	+2.5	2.60
European	103.6	110.9	+3.0	0.00
Financial	114.8	122.9p	+2.5	0.66
Financial	365.1	390.9	+19.2	0.66
GF Interest Inc	27.8	29.8e	-0.2	8.64
Do Gth	40.0	42.8	..	8.64
High Yield	76.2	81.6e	+3.4	5.24
Income	114.4	122.5	+7.4	1.96
International	114.0	122.0	+7.4	1.96
Japan Tech	46.1	49.4	+1.3	0.00
Nat Resource	38.5	41.2	+1.6	1.43
Security	197.2	211.0	+6.6	2.89
Smaller Co	157.2	168.3	+5.3	0.00
Spec Sits	108.3	115.9	+3.8	2.01
US Smlr Co	19.1	20.5	+1.6	1.22

HSBC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
36, Queen Street London EC4 R 1DN
01-236 4210

Bnt & Overs	121.0	128.1e	+7.6	2.24
Inc Plus	85.7	90.8	+4.9	3.15
Cap Gth	64.5	68.4	+3.4	3.15
Inv Tst Fnd	67.9	71.9e	+2.5	1.28

KEY FUND MANAGERS
Key House, 37, Baker Street, London EC4M 1HQ
0383 64779

Equity & Gen	47.1	50.3	+1.7	0.84
Gt/Fxd Interest	70.8	75.6	+0.6	9.14
Higher Inc	123.3	131.7	+1.1	6.11
Income	74.7	79.5e	+2.0	4.75
International	45.4	48.5s	+0.4	0.47

KLEINWORT BARRINGTON LIMITED
10 Fenchurch St London EC3
01-623 8000 Dealines 01-929 0776

Income Trusts				
Gilt Yield Inc	105.6	109.1p	-0.8	11.25
Do Cap	201.2	207.4	-1.4	11.25
Global Inc	128.3	136.5p	+5.1	4.89
Growth	223.3	237.5	+8.8	4.89
High Yield Inc	102.4	108.9p	+4.0	5.25
Do Acc	216.8	230.6	+10.2	5.25
Capital Gth Trusts				
Am Sm Co Inc	42.4	45.1	+2.7	0.61
N American Inc	38.9	41.4	+1.7	1.89
Do Acc	46.6	49.8e	+1.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Ashley	Industrials A-D	
2	Leeds	Textiles	
3	Lon & Edin Tst	Property	
4	Barclays (as)	Banks,Discount	
5	Usher Walker	Paper,Print,Adv	
6	Amec	Building,Roads	
7	Cairn Milling	Foods	
8	WPP	Paper,Print,Adv	
9	Courts (Furn) 'A'	Drapery,Stores	
10	Century	Oil & Gas	
11	Tricentrol	Oil & Gas	
12	Trafalgar Hse (as)	Industrials S-Z	
13	Baggeridge Brick	Building,Roads	
14	Newmark (Louis)	Electricals	
15	Gleeson (MJ)	Building,Roads	
16	BPB Ind (as)	Building,Roads	
17	Unitech	Electricals	
18	Honda Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
19	TI	Industrials S-Z	
20	Sunnie Clothes	Drapery,Stores	
21	GKN (as)	Industrials E-K	
22	Ulster TV	Cinemas,TV	
23	Portals	Industrials L-R	
24	Newman Inds	Industrials L-R	
25	Cantors 'A'	Drapery,Stores	
26	Banks (Sidney C)	Foods	
27	Linread	Industrials L-R	
28	HTV N/V	Cinemas,TV	
29	EIS	Industrials E-K	
30	McCarthy & S	Building,Roads	
31	Magnet (as)	Building,Roads	
32	Sequa	Chemicals,Plas	
33	Costain	Building,Roads	
34	Hayden Mac	Industrials E-K	
35	NMW Comp	Electricals	
36	Nu-Swift Inds	Industrials L-R	
37	Howard Hldgs	Building,Roads	
38	Ottoman	Banks,Discount	
39	Bus Mortgage	Banks,Discount	
40	Casket (S)	Drapery,Stores	
41	Kleinwort Benson	Banks,Discount	
42	TV-AM	Cinemas,TV	
43	Crosby James	Building,Roads	
44	Simon Eng	Industrials S-Z	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1987 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. cover yield%	Gross Red. yield%

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

99⅝	95⅝	Treas 7¾%	1985-88	99⅛	...	7.8	8.440
102⅛	94⅛	Exch 10¼%	1988	100⅛	...	10.4	8.843
101⅛	95	Treas 12¾%	1988	100⅛	...	9.7	8.982
98	92⅝	Treas 3%	1978-88	97⅜	...	8.1	7.166
107⅛	94⅞	Treas 8¾%	1988	100⅝	...	9.5	8.948
105⅛	95⅞	Treas 11¾%	1988	103⅝	...	11.2	9.311
104⅜	97⅛	Treas 10¾%	1988	101⅝	...	10.3	9.311
103⅛	95⅛	Exch 10%	1988	100⅝	...	9.9	8.373
106	95⅛	Exch 10¼%	1988	102⅝	+⅛	10.0	8.950
105⅝	95	Exch 11%	1989	102⅞	...	9.7	9.282
101⅝	95⅛	Treas 9%	1986-89	95⅝	...	9.3	7.269
102⅛	93⅛	Treas 9¾%	1989	100⅝	...	9.5	9.158
96⅛	89⅝	Treas 9%	1989	95⅛	...	9.1	8.510
111	101⅛	Treas 13¼%	1989	108⅝	...	10.6	9.268
122⅜	103⅝	Treas 15%	1989	118⅝	...	10.8	9.408
113⅝	96⅝	Treas 12%	1989-92	109⅝	...	10.6	9.409
92⅝	79⅛	Treas 9%	1990	87⅝	...	9.3	7.195
100	93⅝	Treas 8¾%	1990-93	96⅝	...	9.1	5.800
105	94⅛	Treas 10%	1990	99⅝	...	9.9	8.417
114⅝	99⅝	Treas 12¾%	1990	109⅝	...	10.7	8.957
110⅛	101⅛	Treas 11¾%	1991	106⅝	...	10.5	9.354
105⅜	88⅞	Exch 11%	1991	101⅝	...	10.4	9.263
109⅜	97	Treas 13%	1991	105⅝	...	10.7	9.407
99	79⅜	Treas 9%	1987	97⅝	...	9.4	8.235
99	91	Treas 9%	1991	95⅝	...	9.4	8.235

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

116⅛	105	Treas 12¾%	1992	111⅛	+⅛	11.5	9.428
108⅛	98¾	Treas 10¾%	1992	103⅝	...	10.4	9.412
109⅝	99	Treas CI¾%	1992	103⅝	...	10.1	9.445
96⅛	78⅛	Treas 9%	1992	89⅝	...	9.8	7.364
99	89⅛	Treas 9%	1992	95⅝	...	9.4	9.550
117	100⅝	Treas 12¾%	1993	111⅛	...	11.1	9.558
121	103⅛	Treas 13½%	1993	115⅝	...	11.8	9.548
107⅛	93⅛	Treas 10%	1993	102⅝	...	9.8	9.546
118⅛	102⅛	Treas 12¾%	1994	111⅝	...	11.1	9.658
121	103⅝	Treas 13½%	1994	115⅝	...	11.8	9.671
111⅛	95⅝	Treas 11¾%	1994	105⅝	...	11.1	9.694
125⅛	107⅛	Treas 13¾%	1994	118⅝	...	11.6	9.671
128⅛	113⅛	Treas 14¼%	1994	122⅝	...	11.6	9.671
116⅛	100⅛	Treas 12%	1994	110⅝	...	11.1	9.694
117⅛	100⅛	Treas 12%	1994	110⅝	...	11.1	9.694
107⅛	93⅛	Treas 10%	1994	101⅝	...	9.8	9.777
118⅛	105⅛	Treas 12%	1995	112⅝	...	10.8	9.857
101⅛	79⅝	Exch 9%	1995-98	95⅝	...	9.5	9.431
109⅜	97⅛	Exch 10%	1995	103⅝	...	10.0	9.861
123⅛	108	Treas 12¾%	1995	116⅝	...	11.0	9.901
130⅛	114⅝	Treas 14%	1998	123⅝	...	11.5	10.058
105⅝	89	Treas 9%	1998-99	99⅝	...	9.1	9.177
119⅛	104⅛	Treas 13%	1998	112⅝	...	11.9	10.043
127⅛	109⅛	Treas 13¾%	1998	118⅝	...	11.1	9.916
89⅝	80	Treas 8%	1998	84	...	9.5	8.6
108⅝	95⅛	Treas 12%	1998	102⅝	...	9.9	9.975
120⅛	105⅛	Treas 13¼%	1998	113⅝	...	11.1	9.975
111⅝	95⅝	Exch 10¼%	1997	103⅝	...	10.1	9.919
103	88⅛	Treas 9¾%	1997	95⅝	...	9.3	9.790
140	127	Exch 15%	1997	132⅝	...	11.5	10.159
97⅛	79⅝	Treas 8¾%	1997-02	92⅝	...	9.2	9.449
109⅝	93⅛	Exch 10¼%	1998	99⅝	...	9.9	9.869
145⅛	123⅝	Treas 15¼%	1998	134⅝	...	11.5	10.141
122⅛	102⅝	Treas 12%	1998	113⅝	...	10.6	9.969
124⅛	102⅝	Treas 12%	2000	113⅝	...	10.6	9.969
123	95	Treas 10¾%	1998	104⅝	...	10.3	9.915
111⅝	93⅛	Treas 9¾%	1998	102⅝	...	9.6	9.918
110⅛	94⅛	Treas 9¾%	2001	101⅝	...	10.7	10.069
163⅛	88⅛	Conv 9%	1998-01	125⅝	...	9.5	9.734
134⅛	112⅝	Treas 14%	1998-01	126⅝	...	11.2	10.126

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

103	88⅛	Exch 9%	2002	99⅝	...	9.5	9.226
110⅛	92⅝	Treas 10¾%	2003	105⅝	...	10.2	9.958
113⅛	97⅛	Treas 11¾%	2003-02	113⅝	+⅛	10.4	10.069
109	93⅛	Treas 10%	2003	99⅝	...	9.8	9.956
111⅝	94⅝	Treas 10½%	2003	106⅝	...	9.9	9.927
121⅛	101⅝	Treas 11¾%	2003-04	111⅝	...	10.6	9.957
111⅝	94⅝	Treas 10%	2004	102⅝	...	9.8	9.947
68⅝	51⅝	Exch 3½%	1999-04	55⅝	+⅛	6.4	6.350
107⅝	90⅛	Exch 9%	2004	101⅝	+⅛	9.9	9.947
107⅝	90⅝	Exch 9%	2004	101⅝	+⅛	9.9	9.947
116⅝	98⅝	Treas 10¾%	2005	107⅝	...	10.1	9.947
132⅛	111⅝	Treas 12¾%	2005	121⅝	...	10.5	9.957
94⅛	79⅛	Treas 8%	2005-08	86⅝	...	9.3	9.257
106⅝	89⅝	Treas 9%	2006	98⅝	...	9.2	9.257
142⅛	119⅝	Treas 13¾%	2006-08	130⅝	...	10.5	9.957
127⅛	98⅛	Treas 12¾%	2009	113⅝	...	11.2	9.957
113⅝	95⅝	Treas 11¾%	2011	103⅝	...	11.3	9.957
95⅛	75⅝	Treas 8¾%	2017	85⅝	...	10.2	9.957
103⅝	83⅝	Treas 8¾%	2020	93⅝	...	9.3	9.957
101⅝	81⅝	Treas 8¾%	2020	92⅝	...	9.4	9.957
98⅝	68⅛	Treas 8¾%	2024	77⅛	● ...	9.4	9.957

UNDATED

45⅝	39⅝	Consols	4%			42⅛	...	9.5	...
41⅞	34⅝	War Ln	3½%			37⅝	...	9.3	...
53	46	Conv	3½%			49⅝	...	7.1	...
34⅝	29⅝	Treas	3%			31⅝	...	9.5	...
29¼	24⅝	Consols	2½%			25⅝	...	9.5	...
29¼	24⅝	Treas	2½%			25⅝	...	9.5	...

INDEX-LINKED

133⅝	126⅝	Treas It. 2%	1988	133⅝		2.0	2.882
119⅞	109⅞	Treas It. 2%	1990	117	...	2.1	1.518
101⅛	93⅛	Treas It. 2%	1992	99	...	2.7	2.296
130⅝	117⅝	Treas It. 2%	1996	128⅝	...	2.3	2.457
111⅞	99⅝	Treas It.2½%	2003	109⅝	...	2.3	2.296
129⅞	114⅞	Treas It.2½%	2006	127⅝	...	2.3	2.296
118	104⅝	Treas It. 2%	2008	116⅝	...	2.3	2.296
127⅞	99⅛	Treas It.2½%	2009	125⅝	...	2.3	2.296
113⅞	99⅛	Treas It.2½%	2011	109⅝	...	2.3	2.296
95⅛	75⅛	Treas It.2½%	2016	93⅝	...	2.3	2.296
103⅝	83⅝	Treas It.2½%	2020	101⅝	...	2.3	2.296
101⅝	81⅝	Treas It.2½%	2020	99⅝	...	2.3	2.296
98⅝	68⅛	Treas It.2½%	2024	77⅛	● ...	2.3	2.296

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
273	180	Allied Irish	195	205	-10	8.0	4.5	5.8
199	71	Associated (Hong)	134	139	-½	2.7a	3.3	21.2
229	126	Ass Mex Z	134	139	-½	...	...	...
12⅜	3¼	Bankamerica	3½	...	...	...	...	...
245	175	Bank of Ireland	195	205	-10	17.0b	8.5	...
25	17½	Bank Leumi Israel	21	22	...	...	...	...
332	240	Bank Leumi UK	320	330	...	17.0	4.9	11.2
535	425	Bank Of Scotland	500	510	...	23.4	4.6	9.4
85	62	Bank Of Wales	68	70	...	3.3	4.7	9.3
554	413	Barclays (as)	530	538	+4	30.1	5.6	7.5
94	36	Beckenham	45	53	...	2.1	4.7	11.2
553	453	Brown Shipley	515	545	●+1	14.0	2.7	5.5
495	280	Chtr Assd	484	495	+1	27.6	5.7	11.6
79½	44	Chtrs	51	54	+1	3.1	5.8	13.1
286	195	Close Mandelton	194	...	...	12.0	6.2	...
51	34	Cocoa	39½	...	...	2.5	6.4	22.1
182	133	Coss Bros	170	185	-5	6.5	3.4	...
111½	72	Commerzbank	89½	...	-½	2.0	2.2	...
285½	129½	Deutsche Bank	113½	...	-½	6.6	5.8	10.9
80	21	Equity & Law	75	80	...	3.0	3.8	9.4
250	165	First Nat Finance	230	240	+5	21.3	7.2	9.9
419	239	Gerrard Nat	372	382	+5	36.0	4.1	12.5
124	83	Gerrards Cert	120	124	...	3.6	2.9	24.8
386	295	Hambros	370	380	...	12.1	3.2	9.4
810	386	Hill Samuel	780	790	...	23.0	2.9	12.9
67	45	HK Shanghai	64	66	+1	1.8	2.7	16.5
2360	1360	Jardine Matheson	2300	2320	+10	16.3	0.7	16.4
194	156	King & Shaxson	190	194	...	6.0	3.1	8.4
688	277	Kleinwort Benson	650	660	+10	19.0	2.9	8.4
615	213	Lloyds (as)	580	590	+4	27.5	4.7	4.9
91	27½	Lon Scot	84	90	+4	4.4	4.9	5.6
398	308	Midland (as)	374	384	+16	27.5	7.4	4.9
555	388	Nat Comm (as)	520	530	+15	28.5	5.4	5.6
288	168	Nat Australia	268	278	+4	14.0	5.2	6.2
435	335	Nat West (as)	395	405	+5	22.0	5.4	6.2
135	95	Quinton	120	130	...	4.0	3.1	9.2

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
224½	98	Amstrad (as)	110	113	+1	1.0	0.9	45
167	49	Apricot Computers	90	95	...	5.7	6.3	12.5
280	205	Argos	270	280	●+1	9.0	3.2	29.5
205	174	Atlantic Comp	200	205	...	8.9	4.3	12.1
585	294	Brewster	570	580	+4	15.0	2.6	38.8
274	171	Data Sec	265	268	●+4	...	...	...
700	168	Electronic Rentl	690	700	+10	46	2.2	14.9
300	188	Ferranti	292	297	...	17.1	7.5	12.5
77½	15	Filtronic	75	77	...	1.0	2.1	38.5
240	97	Gresham Comp Gp	230	240	...	9.5	4.0	12.5
240	97	Hunter	230	240	●-1	9.5	4.0	12.5
177	142	Kontron Electronic	170	175	●-1	9.5	5.4	13.2
230	173	Logica	220	225	●-1	9.5	4.2	13.2
230	173	Logica B	220	225	●-1	9.5	4.2	13.2
224	142	Micro Focus

FAMILY MONEY BRIEFING

The minister spells out the new Act

■ The consumer affairs minister Francis Maude warned investment advisers this week that unless they are registered with an approved self-regulating organization (SRO) by the time the Financial Services Act comes into force next April, they could face up to two years' imprisonment.

Mr Maude was speaking during a tour of the east Midlands to discuss the implications of the new Act. He urged investment advice companies to register quickly with an SRO in order to avoid the bottleneck of applications that is expected around the January application deadline. Mr Maude stressed that late applications that were not processed in time could result in businesses practising illegally from next spring.

Geoffrey Pointon, chairman of the Leicester-based investment advisers Pointon York was one of those who exchanged views with the minister. Mr Pointon said after their meeting: "Francis Maude knew we were very much involved in the 'brave new world' of new legislation and this is why he wanted to see us at work and hear our opinions."

Meanwhile, FIMBRA (the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association) has become the first of the proposed SROs to receive formal recognition from the Government-appointed investment watchdog, the Securities and Investments Board.

FIMBRA is the organization by which financial advisers will have to be approved in order to continue trading legally next year. The FIMBRA chairman Lord Elton says: "Our aim will be to provide firm and even-handed regulation of our members. This will protect the interests both of the investing public and of our industry".

■ **A new discretionary investment management service for people with £10,000 or more to invest has been launched by Sedgwick Personal Financial Management Limited. The Sedgwick Investment Management Service (SIMS) offers two types of investment portfolio — a growth portfolio and an income and growth portfolio.**

The growth portfolio is for investors aiming primarily for a high level of capital growth; income is accumulated within the portfolio and is not distributed. In the income and growth portfolio, income is available for people seeking a rising income as well as capital growth and is distributed monthly by cheque. A range of unit trusts, offshore trusts and other managed funds will be used. The annual management fee for the service is 1 per cent plus VAT.

More details are available from David Sargeant, Sedgwick Personal Financial Management, on 01-377 3456.



Francis Maude, left, on his ministerial visit to the east Midlands, meets the Pointon York directors — Sydney York, Geoffrey Pointon and Jason Duke



■ Who gets the lion's share — the Inland Revenue or your family? That is the question uppermost in people's minds when it comes to inheritance tax planning. A new book* by the tax specialist Tony Sherring gives step-by-step guidance on the general principles of Inheritance Tax to help keep hard-earned cash (and perhaps the family home) within the family.

The book looks at new and old planning routes and is well illustrated with worked examples. It includes a detailed assessment of areas such as accumulation and maintenance trusts and discretionary trusts. The potential pitfalls of reliefs, exemptions and valuations are all covered from a practical point of view and there is advice on anti-avoidance regulations.

* Inheritance Tax Planning, *by F.A. Sherring, is available from Chartac Books, The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, 399 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2HL, at £11.95*

■ **The collapse of share prices during the past two months has had virtually no effect on residential property values in the Home Counties, according to London-based chartered surveyors W.G. Edwards & Partners. The firm says that although there has been a decline in activity in the property market in the second half of 1987, prices have continued to rise.**

The underlying causes of rising values are still present. The most popular types of property are in short supply relative to demand, incomes continue to rise faster than inflation, and mortgage money is readily available.

Edwards says it is likely that some softening of values could occur in Docklands, where many properties have been purchased as a speculation, particularly if the owners of such properties find it necessary to unwind their speculative positions.

Elsewhere, highly priced property dependent for its value on high City incomes could be affected over a period of time.

■ Now that we are in the final pre-Christmas shopping phase, timely advice on protecting your valuables comes from a major insurance company.

Sun Alliance points out that shops are reporting continuing demand for electrical items such as home computers, televisions, videos and compact disc players. Cameras and bicycles remain popular presents, while jewellery and furs are favourite gifts for ladies.

With such presents, it would not be unusual for an average family to have £500 in value wrapped up under the Christmas tree. Sun Alliance advises people to check that their insurance cover is adequate as soon as they buy new items. Bicycles, cameras and portable stereos can be insured so that cover is in operation while they are out of the house, where they may be lost or stolen. Compact disc players, jewellery and videos are top of burglars' hit lists, so check that your household policy gives sufficient cover. If it does not, valuables should be insured separately as additional items on the policy.

A final tip as you prepare for that last-minute shopping trip. Keep purses and credit cards secure. Do not leave your wallet in your back pocket and never leave your handbag unattended.

■ **We may be in a bear market but Guinness Mahon Investment Management is being bullish about its Temple Bar Unlisted Securities Fund which is the only authorized unit trust to invest solely in USM shares.**

The USM as a whole has fallen more than the main market in the stock market crash. However, the Temple Bar unit trust is, according to Planned Savings statistics, the top performer in the UK General Trusts sector in the 11 months to December 1 and the sixth best performer of all unit trusts during that period.

Peter Knapton, of Guinness Mahon, says: "There is plenty of value in smaller company investments trading on the USM. Many have shown very rapid growth from modest beginnings using little outside capital. These companies have up-to-date equipment, flexible and modern methods and a clear commitment to growth in targeted sectors".

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded return at tax rates 27%	45%	60%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS							
Ordinary Dep A/c[1]	2.50	2.52	1.90	1.38	1 min	0-7 day	—
Girobank	2.50	2.52	1.90	1.38	1 min	7 day	01-600 6020
Fixed Term Deposits:							
National Westminster	5.75	5.75	4.33	3.15	10,000-24,999	1 mth	01-726 1000
" " "	6.00	6.00	4.52	3.29	10,000-24,999	6 mth	01-726 1000
Midland	5.32	5.32	4.01	2.92	10,000-24,999	*1 mth*	*01-260 8000*
" " "	5.64	5.64	4.25	3.09	10,000-24,999	6 mth	01-260 8000
BUILDING SOCIETIES							
Ordinary A/c	4.00	4.04	3.04	2.21	1 min	—	—
Britannia[2]	6.15	6.15	4.63	3.37	250 min	—	—
Bristol & West[2]	7.30	7.30	5.50	4.00	*500 min*	—	—
Bristol & West[2]	7.55	7.55	5.69	4.14	5,000 min	—	—
Bristol & West[2]	7.80	7.80	5.88	4.27	10,000 min	—	—
Bristol & West[2]	8.10	8.10	6.10	4.44	25,000 min	—	—
Nationwide Non-Resid[2]	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	1 min	—	—
MONEY FUNDS							
Aitken Hume Monthly Inc	5.83	5.99	4.51	3.26	1,000 min	—	01-638 6070
Allied Arab HICA	6.58	6.79	5.12	3.72	3,000 min	—	01-629 6802
Bank Of Scotland	5.75	5.91	4.45	3.24	2,500 min	—	01-626 8060
Barclays High Rate Dep	5.75	5.88	4.43	3.22	1,000 min	—	01-626 1567
" " "	5.88	6.01	4.53	3.29	10,000 min	—	01-626 1567
Britannia High Interest	5.83	5.99	4.51	3.28	*2,500 min*	—	*01-588 2777*
Citibank Money Mkt Plus‡	5.50	5.64	4.25	3.09	2,000 min	—	01-741 4941
HFC Trust & Savings	7.50	7.64	5.76	4.19	5,000 min	—	01-236 8391
Henderson Cheque A/c	5.75	5.91	4.45	3.24	2,500 min	—	01-638 5757
L & G High Int Deposit	6.25	6.34	4.78	3.47	1,000 min	1 mth	01-388 3211
Lloyds Investment A/c‡[5]	6.40	6.49	4.82	3.51	5,000 min	3 mth	01-407 1000
Lloyds HICA‡	4.80	4.91	3.70	2.69	1,000 min	—	01-407 1000
M&G HICA	5.83	5.99	4.51	3.28	2,500 min	—	01-626 4588
Midland HICA	5.50	5.61	4.23	3.07	2,000 min	—	0742 52800
" "	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	10,000 min	—	0742 52800
Nat West Special Reserve	5.75	5.88	4.43	3.22	2,000 min	—	01-726 1000
" " "	5.88	6.00	4.52	3.29	10,000 min	—	01-726 1000
Oppenheimer Money Mngmt	5.83	5.96	4.49	3.27	1,000 min	1 mth	01-236 9362
" " "	5.93	6.06	4.57	3.32	10,000 min	1 mth	01-236 9362
Phillips & Drew HICA	6.02	6.16	4.64	3.38	2,500 min	—	01-628 9771
Provincial Trust Chq A/c	6.38	6.77	5.10	3.71	1,000 min	—	061-9289011
Royal Bk Of Scot Prem A/c	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	2,500 min	—	031-5570201
S & P Classic	5.70	5.87	4.42	3.22	500 min	—	0708 766966
Tyndall Call	6.07	6.21	4.68	3.40	2,500 min	—	0272 732241
Tyndall 7-day	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	*2,500 min*	—	*0272 732241*
UDT 7-day	5.74	5.86	4.42	3.21	5,000 min	7 day	01-626 4661
Western Trust	6.02	6.19	4.66	3.39	2,500 min	1 mth	0752 261161
NATIONAL SAVINGS							
Ordinary A/c[3]	6.00	6.17	4.65	3.38	1-10,000	8 day	041-6494555
*Investment A/c**	10.00	7.30	5.50	4.00	5-100,000	1 mth	041-6494555
Income Bond*	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	2,000-100,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	100-100,000	3 mth	041-6494555
33rd Issue Cert*†	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	6.51	6.51	6.51	6.51			
Retail Price Index: Nov	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4			
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS							
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.00	8.00	6.56	5.36	1,000 min	1 yr	0992 30488
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.00	8.00	6.61	5.43	1,000 min	2 yrs	0992 30488
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.00	8.00	6.65	5.49	1,000 min	3 yrs	0992 30488
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.00	8.00	6.68	5.55	1,000 min	4 yrs	0992 30488
Financial Assurance	8.00	8.00	6.56	5.36	2,000 min	5 yrs	01-367 6000
LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS							
Northampton	6.58	6.58	4.96	3.61	500 min	1 yr	01-407 2767
Kirklees	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min	2 yrs	01-407 2767
Kirklees	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min	3 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	4 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	5 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	6 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	7 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	8 yrs	01-407 2767
Taff Ely	6.48	6.48	4.88	3.55	1,000 min	9 yrs	01-407 2767
Taff Ely	6.48	6.48	4.88	3.55	1,000 min	10 yrs	01-407 2767
FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS							
Sterling	7.70	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
US Dollar	6.78	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
Yen	3.50	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
D Mark	2.48	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
French Franc	7.67	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
Swiss Franc	3.10	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741

*Interest taxable, paid gross † Tax free ‡ Higher returns for larger balances [1] All major banks- Nat West & Barclays 2.63% [2] Societies chosen based on high street presence, higher rates can sometimes be obtained from smaller societies - contact Chase de Vere Moneyline 01-404 5768 [3] 3 per cent for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less [4] Additional holdings up to £5,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates [5] Charge for instant access Research: Deborah Benn

KEY RATES

Retail Prices Index (Nov '86 to Nov '87)
+4.1%

Mortgage rate*
10.0%-10.5%

Bank base rate
8.50%

Bank prime overdraft rate*
13%-18% APR

Personal loan rate*
19.7% APR

Credit card rate*
23.1% APR

Hire purchase rate*[1]
28% APR

Bank deposit account
2.50-2.63%

Building society ordinary account
4%

High-interest cheque account*
5.90%

Holiday exchange rates*

Spanish peseta	198
French franc	9.93
Greek drachma	248
Italian lira	2165

* Typical rates
[1] £1,000 over 12 months
APR = annual percentage rate

FUND OFFERS

Mercury ..... page 24
Fidelity ..... page 29

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	8.50%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	8.50%
Citibank NA	8.50%

ALL BOX NO REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO
BOX NO.____
BOX NO. DEPT.,
P.O. BOX 484,
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING,
LONDON,
E1 9DD.

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

AETNA LIFE INSURANCE
401, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE
01-837 6494
Life Funds

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Squirrel	11.45	12.06	+0.01	..
Bear	11.21	11.80	+0.13	..
Owl	13.36	14.07	+0.15	..
Bull	12.63	13.30	+0.05	..
Stag	12.68	13.35	+0.04	..
Gilt Edged	11.51		+0.01	..
Deposit	10.56		+0.02	..
Pensions				
Squirrel	12.76	13.44	+0.03	..
Bear	13.20	13.71	+0.10	..
Owl	15.60	17.48	+0.18	..
Bull	14.95	15.74	+0.05	..
Stag	15.07	15.87	+0.28	..
Gilt Edged	12.5		-0.2	..
Deposit	11.29		+0.03	..
Exempt App Mixed	154.0	167.4	+4.06	..

ABBEY LIFE
80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
0202 292373

Property Fund Inc	216.1	227.5	+0.6	..
Do Accum	221.1	329.8	+0.9	..
Equity Fund Income	108.0	111.6	+3.9	..
Do Accum	117.3	123.5	+4.3	..
Selective Fund	258.3	271.9	+2.6	..
Money Fund	255.1	267.5	+0.3	..
Prop Fd Ser 4	245.9	258.9	+0.7	..
Equity Ser 4	121.6	128.1	+3.5	..
Man Ser 4	337.3	355.1	+6.3	..
Conv Ser 4	210.5	221.6	+0.3	..
Money Ser 4	210.2	221.3	+0.2	..
Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	200.1	210.7	-3.6	..
American Ser 4	218.7	230.3	+8.9	..
High Inc Ser 4	242.5	255.8	+8.9	..
Indexed Inv. Ser 4	*115.9*	*122.0*	*-2.6*	..
Japan Ser 4	248.7	263.4	+3.3	..

ALBANY LIFE
3, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar
0707 43311

Equity Fd Acc	788.2	829.6	+55.1	..
European Fd Accum	177.8	187.2	+6.7	..
Fixed Int Acc	302.7	330.6	+6.6	..
Gtd Money Fd Acc	216.1	226.4	+0.2	..
Int Man Fd Acc	318.8	335.5	+6.0	..
Int Fxd Int Fd Acc	193.9	204.0	-0.8	..
Japan Fund	261.9	275.6	+1.8	..
Nth American Fd Acc	129.5	133.4	+5.9	..
Prop Fd Acc	237.7	250.1	+0.2	..
Multiple Inv Acc	551.0	579.9	+19.1	..

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Allied Dunbar Assurance Swindon SN1 1EL
0793-28291

Fixed Int Dep Accum	238.5	251.1	+0.3	..
Equity Accum	665.4	700.5	+22.0	..
Property Accum	366.7	386.0	+0.4	..
Far East Accum	150.8	158.8	-2.2	..
Managed Capital	314.0	330.6	+7.3	..
Do Accum	526.9	554.7	+12.2	..
Overseas Accum	435.6	458.5	+14.1	..
Gilt Edged Accum	295.5	307.9	-3.2	..
Amer Equity Accum	322.4	339.4	+12.9	..
Amer Man Accum	153.7	161.8	+5.6	..
Amer Prop Accum	119.9	126.3	+2.3	..

BALTIC ASSURANCE
25-26 Albermarle Street, London W1X 4AD
01-493 9699

Managed Growth	253.2	266.6	+5.78	..
Managed Income	115.6	121.7	-0.04	..
International	156.1	166.4	+2.31	..
High Income	174.2	183.3	+3.18	..
Income & Growth	231.4	243.6	+7.05	..
Basic Resource	94.17	99.13	+1.63	..
American	135.9	143.1	+1.75	..
Japan & General	444.0	467.4	+11.06	..
Special Situations	199.0	209.5	+6.61	..

BARCLAYS LIFE
252, Romford Rd, London E7 9JB
01-534 5544

Equity Accum	478.2	501.3	+15.6	..
Do Initial	482.1	503.3	+15.7	..
Gilt Edged Accum	200.9	232.6	-2.5	..
Do Initial	188.1	198.1	-2.3	..
International Accum	241.7	254.5	+6.3	..
Do Initial	234.8	215.4	+5.2	..
Managed Accum	315.5	332.2	+9.1	..
Do Initial	257.5	281.6	+5.2	..
Money Accum	188.7	196.6	+0.3	..
Do Initial	153.3	161.4	+0.1	..
Property Accum	223.2	235.1	+0.2	..
Do Initial	187.2	197.1		..
America Accum	136.8	144.1	+5.5	..
Do Initial	117.8	124.1	+4.8	..
Australia Accum	124.3	130.9	+1.9	..
Do Initial	107.2	112.9	+1.6	..
Financial Accum	213.8	224.9	+8.1	..
Do Initial	183.9	193.5	+7.0	..
500 Accum	256.5	270.1	+8.0	..
Do Initial	217.8	229.3	+8.9	..
Japan Select Acc 2	354.9	373.2	+6.0	..
Do Initial 2	299.1	314.9	+5.1	..
Income Accum	273.7	288.2	+9.4	..
Do Initial	234.6	247.0	+8.0	..
Leisure Accum	164.4	173.1	+7.6	..
Special Sits Accum	130.0	136.9	+3.5	..
Unv Tech Accum	95.0	100.1	+2.8	..
Do Initial	83.7	88.2	+4.1	..

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mountbatten House Chatham
8 Kent ME4 4JF 0634 405161

The Managed Fund	339.6		+12.4	..
Income Fund	389.6	410.1	+5.96	..
Extra Income Fund	362.5	381.6	+6.92	..
Worldwide Growth Fd	238.8	256.6	+6.54	..
Balanced Fund	324.8	341.9	+15.35	..
Smlr Co's & Rc Fd	488.0	513.7	+8.11	..
Int Technology Fund	289.3	304.5	+9.82	..
N Amer & Gen Fund	193.1	203.3	+7.24	..
Energy Int Fund	112.7	118.6	+4.75	..
Pacific Basin Fund	257.8	299.8	+3.56	..
German Growth Fd	92.20	97.06	-0.48	..
Japan Growth Fd	143.5	151.1	+4.26	..
The Uk Gth Fd	109.5	115.2	-1.74	..
Com Euro Gth	72.55	77.43	-3.02	..
Property Fund	204.9	215.3	+0.27	..
Fixed Interest Fund	203.8	214.3	-2.70	..
Cash Fund	181.5	191.1	+0.38	..
Managed Inv Fund	252.2	267.6	+8.04	..
Nth Amer Recov	95.0	100.0		..

CANADA LIFE
2-6, High St, Potters Bar, Herts
P Bar 51122

Equity Growth	149.9			..
Managed	178.9	188.4	+2.3	..
Property	136.2	143.4	+1.5	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	143.4	151.0	-3.5	..
Index-Linked	118.4	124.7	-3.6	..

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Equity	199.2	209.7	+4.5	..
Cash	146.2	153.9	+0.1	..
Midland Bk UT	191.0	201.1	+4.0	..
Midland Bk Int	191.3	201.4	+4.6	..

CANNON ASSURANCE
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB
01-902 8876

Equity Units	656.2		+2.5	..
Property Units	*£25.33*		*-0.65*	..
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£34.71	36.73	+1.11	..
2nd Equity Accum	338.0	357.7	+10.6	..
2nd High Inc/Accum	319.9	338.4	+10.5	..
2nd Property Accum	243.0	257.1	-2.0	..
2nd Managed 2 Acc	113.0	119.6		..
2nd Managed Acc	247.5	261.9	+6.0	..
2nd Managed 4 Acc	161.5	167.4	+3.8	..
2nd Deposit Accum	185.7	196.5	-0.2	..
2nd Gilt Accum	193.7	205.0	-2.6	..
2nd Amer Accum	196.9	208.3	+6.2	..
2nd Intl Money Ac	188.7	199.7	+1.9	..
2nd Index Accum	112.0	118.5	-1.4	..
2nd Far East Accum	194.4	205.7	+4.6	..
2nd Global Accum	71.9	76.1	+3.0	..
2nd Euro Accum	74.3	78.6	+3.6	..
2nd Japan Accum	133.6	140.7	+6.1	..
2nd Heritage Acc	93.0	98.4	-10.4	..
2nd Ind Curr Bond	90.8	96.1	-0.3	..

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Sentry House, 500, Avebury Blvd.
Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA
0908-606101

Property Fund	138.2	145.6		..
Money Fund	242.1	254.9	+0.3	..
Managed Fund	402.9	431.5	+10.2	..
Equity Fund	283.1	298.0	+20.5	..
Fixed Interest Fund	159.6	168.0	-1.2	..
Far East Fund	223.0	234.8	+8.9	..
Nth Amer Fund	116.2	124.5	-0.5	..
Nat Resources Fund	154.0	162.7	+12.0	..
Alexandra Fund	99.7	105.0	+16.0	..

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH
0272 290566
Assurance Funds

Mixed	139.0	148.4	+4.1	..
Equity	173.3	185.4	+5.4	..
Property	139.1	146.5	+0.7	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	122.6	129.1		..
Indexed Secs	97.6	102.8	-1.8	..
Cash	115.9	122.0	+0.2	..
Nth American	87.6	92.3	+4.7	..
Far East	129.8	136.7	+5.0	..
International	106.1	111.7	+3.7	..
Special Sits	148.2	156.1	+3.5	..
Int Income	148.2	156.1	+3.5	..
European	125.8	132.5	+3.8	..
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	135.7	143.9	+4.0	..
Equity	155.7	163.9	+6.0	..
Property	131.8	138.8	+0.1	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	134.3	141.4	-1.0	..
Index Linked	125.7	132.4	-1.8	..
Cash	129.4	136.3		..
Nth American	93.7	98.7	+5.2	..
Far East Acc	184.9	173.6	+4.7	..
International Acc	119.5	125.8	+4.6	..
Special Sits	200.4	210.7	+8.4	..
European Flex	149.2	157.1	+4.9	..
Cash	115.9	122.0	+0.2	..
Nth American	87.6	92.3	+4.7	..
Far East	129.8	136.7	+5.0	..
International	106.1	111.7	+3.7	..
Special Sits	148.2	156.1	+3.5	..
Int Income	148.2	156.1	+3.5	..
American Inc	92.8	97.7	+1.8	..
European	125.8	132.5	+3.8	..

COLONIAL MUTUAL
24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD
01-248 9863

CML U Ass.Key	155.17		..	..
CML U Ass-Pacemkr	191.94		..	..
CML U Ass-Cash	134.1	141.2	..	..
CML U Ass-Equity	278.9	293.6	..	..
CML U Ass-Fl	203.3	214.0	..	..
CML U Ass-Mngd	218.3	229.7	..	..
CML Ass Prop	264.7	278.6	..	..
CML(Pen)-Cash Cap	126.1	142.2	+0.03	..
CML(Pen)-Cash Inv	154.9	163.1	+0.14	..
CML(Pen)-Equity Cap	559.0	588.4	+22.63	..
CML(Pen)-Equity Inv	641.1	674.8	+26.60	..
CML(Pen)-Fixed Cap	222.5	234.2	-1.06	..
CML(Pen)-Fixed Inv	255.2	268.6	-1.36	..
CML(Pen)-Indx Cap	133.5	140.6	-1.52	..
CML(Pen)-Indx Inv	153.1	161.2	-1.64	..
CML(Pen)-Man Cap	303.6	319.6	+9.19	..
CML(Pen)-Man Inv	348.4	366.8	+10.77	..

COMMERCIAL UNION
St Helen s, 1 Undershaft, EC3
01-283 7500

Var Ann Accum (5)	286.66		+8.07	..
Var Ann (5)	58.07		+1.40	..
Prime- Managed	235.3	244.6	+3.0	..
Prime- UK Equity	274.5	289.0	+7.3	..
Prime- Int Equity	172.1	181.2	+3.7	..
Prime- Property	137.0	144.2	+0.3	..
Prime- Fixed Interest	149.4	157.2	-1.6	..
Prime- Index-Linked	101.7	107.1	-1.9	..
Prime- Cash	129.5	136.4	+0.1	..

CONFEDERATION LIFE
50 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HE
01-242 0282

Managed Fund	604.0	635.7	...	..
Equity Fund	847.7	892.3	+22.3	..
PIP Fund	£24.311		+0.56	..

CROWN FINANCIAL
Crown House, Woking GU21 1AW
04862 5033

Life Managed Acc	316.7	333.3	+11.1	..
Life Fixed Int Accum	234.7	247.0	-4.5	..
Life Equity Accum	394.8	415.5	+20.4	..
Life Money Accum	189.8	199.7	+0.2	..
Life Inv Trust Accum	276.1	298.0	+14.6	..
Life Int Accum	285.5	300.5	+11.7	..
Life High Inc Accum	424.5	446.8	+29.3	..
Life Property Accum	192.9	202.3		..
Crown Snr Inv A	641.4	771.9		..
Brown Equity	613.0	645.2		..
OBS Managed	202.2	212.8		..
Growth Accum	218.5	230.0		..

CRUSADER INSURANCE
Reigate Surrey RH2 8BL
07372 42424

Measured perf	85.1	90.1	+1.9	..
Performance Plus	81.4	86.1	+3.1	..
With Profit Perf	104.9	111.0		..
UK Opportunity	107.0	113.2	+5.7	..
Euro Opportunity	76.8	81.1	+3.8	..
North Amer Opp	85.7	89.5	+4.9	..

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Far East Cap	84.8	89.7	+1.4	..
Gth Prop Series 1	149.6	157.8	-8.2	..
Gth Prop Series 2	105.8	112.0	+0.2	..
Fixed Int	101.0	106.9	+0.5	..
Cash	102.9	107.9	+0.1	..
Managed Pens	264.7	286.3	+10.3	..
Overseas	73.6	77.9	+1.7	..

EAGLE STAR INSURANCE
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ
0242 221311

Secure Fund	110.4	116.4	+0.2	..
Blue Chip Fund	135.7	143.9	+0.9	..
Adventurous Fund	139.7	148.0	+2.1	..
Performance Fund	142.6	150.2	+4.5	..

EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND
1 Threadneedle St, London EC2
01-588 1212

Eagle/Midland Units	165.0	171.0	*+5.8*	*4.79*

EQUITY & LAW
Amersham Road, High Wycombe
0494 33377

Uk Equities Fund	457.9	482.0	+13.4	..
Higher Income Fund	418.3	433.4	+23.8	..
Property Fund	303.3	319.2	+8.2	..
Fixed Interest Fund	254.2	267.5	-2.1	..
Index-Linked Scs Fd	106.1	110.6	-2.3	..
Gtd Deposit Fund	187.8	197.5	+0.2	..
Amer Enhance Fund	173.9	189.3	+14.2	..
Far East Fund	297.1	312.7	+7.6	..
Europe Fund	165.8	174.5	+7.3	..
International Fund	256.2	268.6	+8.0	..
Mixed Fund	348.

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

Bonuses buoyant but Aids is still the threat

With all the pre-Christmas marketing hype one would expect from a major insurance company, Norwich Union this week announced its 1988 bonus rates for with-profits and pensions policies.

Peter Gartland reports

Norwich Union's general manager, Hugh Scurfield, says confidently: "We are maintaining our current high bonus rates – both reversionary and terminal – and demonstrating our strength against the background of an All Share Index which has fallen back from its all-time high in July to about where it stood at this time last year."

It may sound like a lot of technical jargon but the reality manifests itself very clearly in the amount of money paid out to policyholders.

Ironing out the peaks and troughs of temporary market fluctuations is a principle of with profits insurance but, as Mr Scurfield argues, "alongside this stability we seek to offer high performance which reflects the rewards of equity investment but without the high risks that can be involved".

The future of bonus rates for both insurance and pension policies has been a talking point ever since the stock market collapse of two months ago.

At that time the effects of

General downturn was expected

the Black Monday crisis and its aftermath were seen far more vividly in unit-linked policies where price falls of 30 per cent and more were not uncommon.

Subsequently, bonus cutbacks at London Life led people to the conclusion that a general downturn was now on the way.

Not so, according to Norwich Union, which attributes at least some of its success to property investment. Commercial properties in the heart of London let at yields of 11 to 12 per cent have provided growth in a year when ordinary shares have not.

According to Mr Scurfield, both dividends and rents have risen substantially, enabling his company to give high returns to policyholders.

Norwich Union quotes 16 per cent a year on a 10-year endowment maturing this year (19 per cent after tax relief) and 25 per cent on a pension policy (for basic rate taxpayers).

These are quoted as record-level payouts but they are accompanied by a warning from Norwich Union that, with changes in the investment climate, people must expect changes in the level of investment earnings.

"While longer-term payouts may go on increasing, the industry's short-term policy payouts may very well come down," the company stresses.

In practice, Norwich Union's 1988 bonus declaration sees very little change to payouts. Payouts on 15-year and 25-year endowments are marginally up, while 10-year payouts fall back slightly.

Norwich Union's figures quoted in the table speak for themselves.

Early in the New Year we can expect the traditional deluge of insurance company bonus announcements for 1988. Policyholders will be watching anxiously to see whether the insurance actuaries have taken fright of the stock market crash to such an extent that they drastically cut bonus rates.

Ability to pay will be affected

Whatever the short-term outlook the long-term one for life insurance bonus rates is not a happy one, according to the consulting actuaries, R. Watson & Sons.

Watsons pins most of the blame for the forthcoming cut in bonus rates on the increasing number of deaths from Aids, particularly up to the end of this century.

Watsons points out that in the long run additional deaths from Aids will affect life companies' ability to pay bonuses on with-profits policies, although, the firm says, it would be premature to reduce bonus rates sharply yet.

People whose policies will mature in the immediate future have had little chance of contributing to the number of Aids deaths and it is inappropriate that they should be penalized.

According to Watsons, the high terminal bonuses that many offices are able to pay at present provide a substantial first line of defence.

Nevertheless, falling interest rates and the probability that share prices in future years cannot rise at the same rate as they have in recent years, even allowing for the



Hugh Scurfield: confident

recent fall, must mean that we are in for a decade or more of reducing bonus rates.

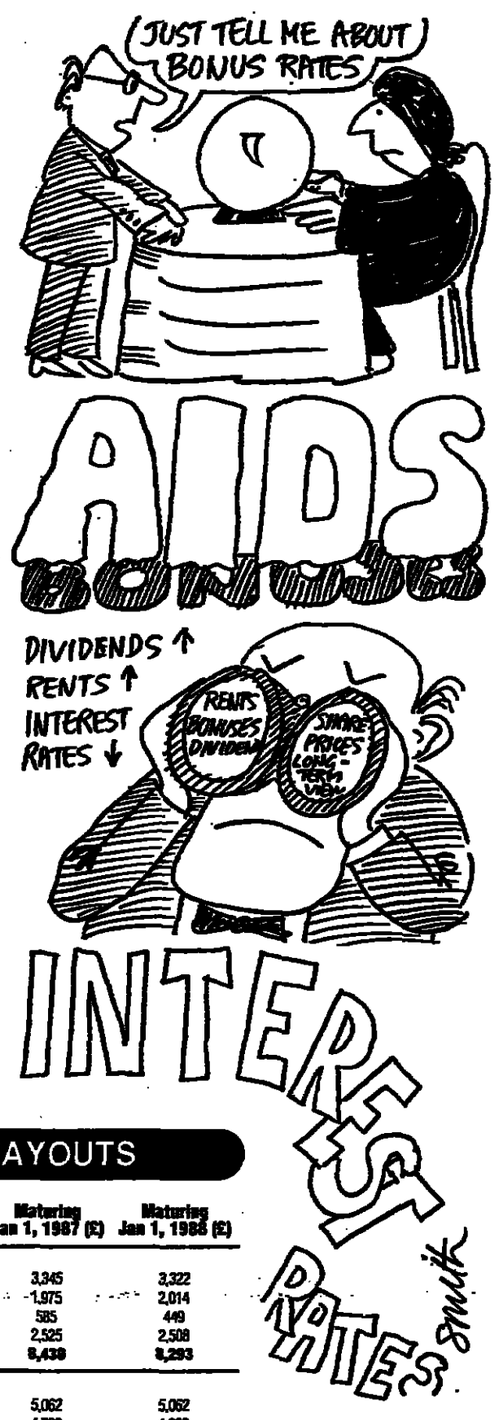
The additional Aids deaths will create further downward pressure on bonuses.

That sounds like a convincing argument for keeping investment and insurance needs separate. Family Money has frequently recommended this separation.

The simplest way to implement it is to satisfy your insurance requirements through high-cover/low-cost term insurance and then plan your investments through a non-insurance route such as investment trusts or unit trusts.

The predictions about how bonus rates will be affected by Aids deaths makes this advice even more relevant.

Keep it in mind the next time your insurance broker recommends a 10-year endowment policy.



POLICY PAYOUTS

	Maturing Jan 1, 1987 (£)	Maturing Jan 1, 1988 (£)
10-YEAR POLICY		
Sum insured	3,345	3,322
Annual reversionary bonus	1,975	2,014
Special reversionary bonus	585	449
Additional bonus	2,525	2,508
Total	**8,430**	**8,293**
15-YEAR POLICY		
Sum insured	5,062	5,062
Annual reversionary bonus	4,726	4,929
Special reversionary bonus	1,721	1,544
Additional bonus	5,872	5,872
Total	**17,381**	**17,487**
25-YEAR POLICY		
Sum insured	8,493	8,245
Annual reversionary bonus	12,646	13,348
Special reversionary bonus	9,011	7,775
Additional bonus	18,048	21,025
Total	**48,198**	**50,393**

Contracts are for a with-profits endowment insurances issued to a male aged 30 next birthday, for a monthly premium of £30



Nigel Lawson, left, introduced the PEP concept in 1986. Barry Bateman is still hopeful

Careful with your PEPs

The spotlight this month has been on personal equity plans, with plan managers working hard to attract investors.

Some have concentrated on recommending the merits of taking out a 1987 PEP before it is too late; others have been seeking to encourage investment in their 1988 plans by offering discounts.

At the same time, attention has been focused on the need for improvements in the PEP framework. Throughout the year plan managers and investment advisers alike have been lobbying the Government to enhance the benefits and relax the restrictions.

Last week these recommendations were supported by action, when Fidelity Investment Managers, the first group to enter the PEP

Handsome growth now unlikely

market, announced that it was deferring the launch of its 1988 PEP.

Barry Bateman, Fidelity's investment services manager said that PEPs had failed to widen and deepen share ownership. Instead, they had been taken out primarily by existing investors.

On a positive note, Mr Bateman said he hoped the Government would respond to the various recommendations by announcing improvements in PEPs in next year's Budget. Fidelity is therefore holding back its 1988 plan until after the Budget.

The desire for a more attractive PEP framework is all very well, but for those people who have already taken out a plan, its usefulness so far is of primary concern.

Clearly, the reports of a handsome growth in the underlying equities is what most investors would like to hear. Sadly, Black Monday and its subsequent effects on the stock market have made this unlikely, to say the least.

In the hope of making the best of the stock market collapse, one Family Money reader from Hertfordshire wrote to ask whether or not he could cash in his PEP ahead of schedule and use the losses to offset his liabilty to Capital Gains Tax.

Before examining this question, it is worth reiterating some of the key points of the framework of PEPs, introduced by Nigel Lawson in his 1986 Budget. The maximum investment is £2,400 a year or £200 a month.

As long as you keep your plan for a full calendar year, which means a minimum of between 12 months and two years, no Capital Gains Tax is payable on any profits and no income tax on the dividends, which can be reinvested.

If an investor decides to cash in a PEP early, the plan is automatically void, and assuming a loss has been made, the investor can certainly use this to offset against any CGT liabilty.

This is not, however, a step that should be taken lightly. If you are contemplating such a move, there are various points that you must take into consideration first. Remember, dividends are paid free of income tax, and interest on cash held in a PEP is paid gross. These benefits are forfeited if the plan is made void.

Another important point to bear in mind is the penalty levied by the plan managers on early withdrawal. This charge is often hefty, sometimes £25, £50 or possibly more. And, just because a plan manager does not quote a penalty fee there is no guarantee that you are not losing out – some managers who do not state a penalty charge have higher initial plan charges.

So, where the capital depreciation is small, the cost of cashing in the plan early may not really be worth it.

To demonstrate, Derek Booker, manager of the Lloyds Bank PEP Centre, says that at the end of November its Managed Plan, which includes some unit trusts, was down by 2.3 per cent, net of charges, since its launch at the beginning of the year.

For anyone who had invested the maximum sum of £2,400 in January, this means the plan is roughly £55 down.

If realized, the CGT set off on this sum is worth £16.50. This assumes, of course, that you have utilized your annual CGT exemption limit.

This calculation ignores the income earned on the investment. Mr Booker says that, taking a gross yield of 5 per cent, the income on the plan

'They are long-term investment vehicles'

could be in the region of £120. Here, the tax liability on early encashment would be £33 at the basic rate.

Of course, those unfortunate investors who took out a PEP when the market was at its peak could well be faced with a plan that is down by the best part of 30 per cent.

In this case, anyone faced with a bill for CGT may well consider cashing in the PEP. But even these individuals should think carefully – PEPs are not aimed at investors looking to make a short-term profit.

Mr Booker says: "PEPs should be looked at as a long-term investment vehicle. What is more, investors should remember that if they shut their 1987 PEP and stock values rise, they have lost that opportunity of having money in a 1987 PEP."

Amanda Pardoe

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Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 27).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Weekly Total
1	+5	+6	+7	+4	+7			
2	+7	+9	+6	+8	+6			
3	+4	+5	+7	+6	+4			
4	+4	+3	+4	+7	+4			
5	+6	+7	+7	+6	+7			
6	+4	+4	+5	+6	+4			
7	+7	+9	+5	+7	+5			
8	+6	+5	+6	+5	+5			
9	+6	+8	+5	+7	+5			
10	+7	+7	+7	+4	+7			
11	+6	+5	+5	+6	+5			
12	+6	+6	+6	+3	+6			
13	+5	+5	+4	+6	+3			
14	+4	+6	+5	+7	+3			
15	+6	+8	+5	+7	+6			
16	+4	+3	+4	+6	+5			
17	+5	+6	+8	+4	+8			
18	+5	+5	+6	+6	+3			
19	+5	+5	+6	+5	+4			
20	+6	+7	+6	+7	+7			
21	+5	+5	+7	+4	+7			
22	+3	+4	+5	+6	+4			
23	+7	+8	+8	+7	+7			
24	+7	+6	+8	+5	+7			
25	+5	+4	+4	+5	+4			
26	+5	+5	+5	+6	+3			
27	+6	+5	+7	+3	+8			
28	+8	+7	+7	+6	+5			
29	+4	+5	+5	+7	+5			
30	+3	+5	+4	+5	+4			
31	+5	+7	+5	+6	+5			
32	+4	+5	+7	+5	+4			
33	+4	+4	+4	+7	+5			
34	+7	+5	+6	+5	+8			
35	+8	+9	+5	+6	+5			
36	+6	+6	+7	+5	+3			
37	+5	+3	+5	+7	+4			
38	+6	+8	+7	+8	+6			
39	+5	+7	+6	+4	+8			
40	+4	+5	+4	+6	+5			
41	+5	+6	+8	+3	+6			
42	+6	+8	+5	+7	+6			
43	+3	+4	+4	+6	+3			
44	+5	+5	+5	+7	+3			

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Five million unit trust holders

Figures from the Unit Trust Association this week reveal funds under management at the end of November of £34.6 billion, 7.5 per cent below the previous month's figure. The fall reflects the continuing uncertainty in markets around the world. However, the number of unit-holder accounts continues on an upward trend and now stands at more than five million for the first time.

Christmas ideas from the Pru

Happiness is a disaster-free Christmas. That is the message from the giant Prudential, which covers three million homes in the UK. So, do not hang Christmas decorations too close to fires, make sure nobody has left a cigarette burning after a party, keep guards around open fires if you have young children or pets about, and unplug television sets and other electrical appliances before going to bed.

CCM

In times like these, you need an "homme d'affaires" more than ever

In the old days, everyone of substantial means employed a wise professional who co-ordinated their financial affairs sensibly, while they got on with their lives. He didn't pretend to know the answer to everything himself, but he knew the best person to ask.

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The skiers who want the Swiss chalet to go with all this may have a little trouble

Switzerland's welcome, to 2,000 buyers a year

Voters in Switzerland's general referendum in 1984 decided by a narrow majority against banning sales of residential property to non-Swiss. Now the Swiss can sell just 2,000 units a year, in certain designated areas, to non-nationals.

But on December 6 this year there was a local referendum in Valais, one of the French-speaking cantons, which contains the most popular tourist resorts in the country, including such celebrated ski villages as Verbier, Saas Fee and Zermatt. The result of the vote was a ban on all property sales to foreigners from the beginning of 1988.

A referendum can be held in any canton if the required number of residents requests one — in Valais 50,000 people signed a petition earlier this year — and officially the canton must then organize a vote within one year.

Traditionally it is the German-speaking areas, which include the financial centres of Zurich and Berne, that are opposed to sales to foreigners. The French-speaking areas, with the distinct exception of Geneva, have been looking to their tourism potential and have been building chalets and ski apartments solely with the holiday-home purchaser in mind.

This has resulted in purpose-built ski stations such as Champoussin and Anzère, which have in the main been sold to foreigners as second homes. For most of the year, therefore, these properties stand empty.

Simon Malster, a partner with the London firm of solicitors Osbornes, says: "Valais is one of the most conservative cantons having both a German- and French-speaking population. I understand that the pressure for change came mainly from the German-speaking residents and was fuelled by the concern over the building of some new purpose-built resorts.

Clients advised to go for canton of Vaud

"The new law in Valais will take effect on January 1, 1988, but will not affect foreign purchasers who may already have signed contracts, provided that they make application to the Commission Foncière for authorization before then.

"Thus any authorizations for foreign purchasers which may already be in the pipeline will be granted but no applications will be considered after January 1.

"There is very little prospect of the residents in the canton of Vaud requesting a referendum on the same issue because the main ski resorts there, such as Villars, have a large Swiss and foreign resident population and are all-year-round resorts."

Bruce MacEacharn, of Prudential International Properties, says: "We are currently advising our clients to look to the canton of Vaud both in Villars and Chateau d'Oeux. We have heard from our Geneva associates, however, that the new legislation coming into effect in Valais on January 1 will be reviewed after one year, so we are working on a wait-and-see policy."

Property purchasing procedures for foreigners buying into a designated Swiss scheme are straightforward, with the prospective purchaser making two applications, one to the local canton and one to the Federal Commission in Berne.

Acceptance takes between six and eight weeks and all contracts are conditional on that application being granted. Mr Malster says: "Once the permission is granted it is then possible to complete the legal formalities immediately."

Diana Wildman

What home-movers can expect from the new professionals

Hardly a week goes by without one of the new nation-wide estate agency networks announcing it has scooped up yet another small local firm in some part of the British Isles.

The apparent rush to buy up all the available estate agency outlets is clear proof that the large insurance companies, banks and building societies believe there is money to be made. What is not so immediately obvious is how the consumer benefits.

Estate agency has never been the most popular of service industries. Many of the general public feel commission is sometimes excessive and that agents do very little for their fee, especially if the sale goes through quickly.

One of the main advantages the public should receive from the larger groupings is a more professional service.

Colin Finch, deputy chairman of Hambro Countrywide, says a high standard of service is the most crucial aspect of a larger group. By having several offices in a given area, Countrywide can market the same property through several outlets. If a transaction is caught in a chain, Countrywide is quite likely to have more than one sale in that chain and can then monitor its progress more effectively.

Mr Finch also says Countrywide aims to provide a good follow-up service in the months after a house sale is agreed but before contracts are signed.

Nationwide Anglia also stressed the fuller service given. With computerization of offices it is possible to give clients regular read-outs of how many potential buyers have seen a property and what likes and dislikes they noted.

Having a nationwide network should benefit anyone moving to a different part of the country. The local office of a large grouping should have details of property prices in all parts of the country.

Nationwide Anglia launched an executive relocation service in September, designed to minimize the time, costs and upheaval of job-related moves. The service includes house purchase and sale, bridging finance, mortgage finance, corporate and personal taxation advice and help on schools and shopping facilities in the new area.

LEAGUE TABLE

Royal Insurance	639 (including wholly and partly owned)
Prudential Property Services	618
Hambro Countrywide	465
Black Horse (Lloyds Bank)	450
Nationwide Anglia	435
General Accident	421
Halifax	271
Abaco	125

It also offers a guaranteed sale price plan, whereby Nationwide Anglia offers to buy an executive's old home at an average valuation price agreed between its valuer and the client's valuer. The relocation service is then responsible for the marketing, care and maintenance of that property until sold.

The Prudential launched its chain-breaking service as far back as January 1986. Black Horse Agencies (BHA) has a similar service. The Prudential pays its estimate of the resale price for a client's



Joe Bradley: "enhancing"

property, less the costs it is likely to incur such as legal fees. It does not charge estate agency commission.

The Prudential will keep any gain or shoulder any loss on the resale price and says its scheme is designed to break even overall. Nationwide Anglia passes on any profit to the client and charges any loss.

BHA give two options — either to buy the client's property at an agreed, discounted price, or to offer open-ended bridging facilities tied to a Lloyds Bank home loan, which will be used to pay off the existing mortgage and pay the deposit on the new house being purchased. The cost of bridging is rolled into the new mortgage when the house is finally sold.

BHA also offers purchasers a guaranteed mortgage, subject to satisfying the usual criteria, which is valid for 60 days. The guarantee is aimed to strengthen the buyer's hand in clinching a purchase.

The choice of mortgage finance and insurance products offered by the big groupings depends on the type of group. The Prudential, for example, offers 150 different sources of mortgage finance, but its estate agents are tied agents of the company for insurance products.

Hambro Countrywide is also tying up with Guardian Royal Exchange and will be forming an insurance company next June to launch new insurance products through estate agency outlets.

The Halifax, by contrast, offers Halifax mortgages, but insurance products from a wide variety of sources. Abaco prides itself on being the largest independent, having no exclusive ties with providers of mortgage finance or insurance products.

A further benefit of larger networks is that the financial muscle of the owners can be put behind the agents. Royal Insurance, which does not fully own all its outlets but aims to do so eventually, says that some of the premises it acquired needed a good facelift to be presentable and inviting to the public.

The computerization of agencies also requires money. Equally there is a cost in the training of staff, to enable them to give proper advice when selling mortgage and insurance products.

The public is already seeing the effects of the new groupings. The Prudential and BHA, for example, have gone for a unified name and logo. Joe Bradley, managing director of Prudential Property Services, says that bringing the company's name to estate agents helps to enhance the agents' standing. The Royal, however, has so far not adopted a Royal logo or name.

Alison Eadie



Christmas present: the share certificate, for what it is worth

The gift that is all in the air

For the wife who has everything, this Christmas could bring a certificate for 500 shares in something called Trasco Wind-Force Technologies, valued, according to the Monaco-based tipsters promoting the shares, at $1,000.

Potential investors in Britain have recently been receiving a holly-bedecked pamphlet from the Monaco firm inviting them to buy their wives "one of the most original ideas in Christmas gifts".

The pamphlets have been followed up by telephone calls from salesmen working for the firm, which is called Investors World and which publishes a share-tip sheet of the same name.

Investors World appears to act as the marketing arm of a share-dealing company based in Luxemburg and called simply WW.

Trasco Wind-Force Technologies is a tiny Dutch company aiming to generate commercial amounts of electricity with modern windmills looking rather like a huge aeroplane propeller on a tall concrete pillar.

For reasons that are unclear this Netherlands company of 12 employees claims to have recently gained a share quote in Vancouver, Canada.

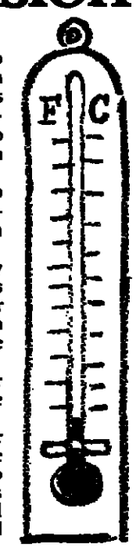
The November issue of *Investors World*, under the headline, "Wind Stock Listed", quotes unnamed company officials as saying that "trading will commence in mid-December".

However, according to the Vancouver Stock Exchange the company has no listing and has made no application to be listed. A spokeswoman for Investors World claimed the application had been delayed, but she was confident that trading would now begin in January.

It all leaves the firm's glossy pamphlet, which boasts that if you invest today "your gifts will be worth even more by Christmas", looking more than slightly tarnished.

Tony Hetherington

When you leave a job how can you stop your pension freezing?



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*March 1987

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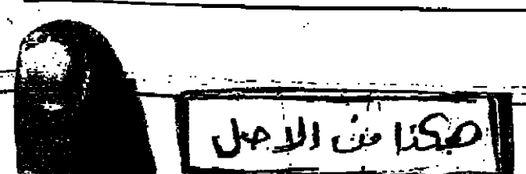
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19th December, 1987



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FAMILY MONEY/3

Tom Tickell takes a sideways and slightly irreverent look at privatization

Go to pray and get your share of the Church

Secret government plans to privatize the Church of England will provide small investors with a seasonal bonanza when the plans are finally announced in the run-up to Christmas next year.

Ministers claim that privatizing the Church — to be known as British Clericom — should raise between £6 billion and £7 billion, helping to finance a further major tax-cutting programme. But they stress that there is more to it than that.

"People who invest in British Clericom will have a strong financial interest in promoting the higher spiritual and moral values, which everyone wants to see," said one senior Treasury source this week. "The more congregations rise, the better the returns will be. From now on investors will have their rewards on earth as well as in Heaven."

Whitehall also sees privatization as a way of dissociating the Government from some recent Church pronouncements on inner city renewal and the National Health Service, which it views as almost Marxist. But it is to keep a "golden share" in British Clericom and have the right to reject some corporate shareholders.

The idea is to ensure that Clericom is safe from takeovers by such groups as the Moonies, the Scientologists, or indeed very rich American fundamentalist television networks.

How will British Clericom work? It will sell licences to companies which will "manage" groups of churches, abbeys and cathedrals for a five-year period — on the lines of commercial television.

The companies will be able to charge fees for entrance, though the fees in every case will have to reflect the popularity of the Church and the tourist throughput involved. A levy of provisionally 5 per cent will be added, and used on a government programme to raise moral awareness in Britain's schools, to be organized by the Department of Education and Science.

"The system's not that different from the present pattern of moral pressure implied in all those suggested contributions," remarked one City figure who is closely involved in the flotation plans.

"It just brings matters out into the open. We recognize that the big companies will all want the plum abbeys and cathedrals that attract the tourist traffic. But they have to take the bread and butter, if they are going to enjoy the cake. The bigger the abbey they are given, the more smaller churches they will be expected to maintain."

During the first five years, Whitehall plans to conduct a "throughput audit", and according to those close to the plans, it may then declare redundant one in five of less historic churches that do not attract visitors. Many of these surplus churches will be in the inner cities, and the companies holding them will then be free to redevelop the sites — though Whitehall is keen to stress that tight controls will apply on the mix of housing and office space.

Passes will be issued by OffGod

Every development will have to contain two public halls to be used for religious or community purposes, for instance.

The Government is acutely sensitive to potential charges that the new structure will impose financial penalties on those wishing to pray.

Churches will offer free entrances during services for everyone, and there will be free "prayer passes" issued to those who have attended their local church at least once a month during the previous year — excluding Christmas and Easter. The passes will be issued by OffGod, the new regulatory authority covering Clericom, on the recommendations of parsons up and down the country.

Prayer passes will ensure the holders can go in free at any time, and there will also be concessionary rates for the over-60s, and for practising members of other religious faiths such as Catholics, Presbyterians and Unitarians.

Originally, the Government was firmly against making special provisions for members of non-Christian religions such as Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs. Now it is to reconsider the questions after protests from the Commission for Racial Equality.

Downing Street is keen to find a distinguished chairman for OffGod.

Whatever happens on that score, Whitehall is determined to attract a mass of small investors to the issue. A life-long free church pass will go to anyone investing more than £1,000, and there are promises of cut price baptisms, and special discounts for weddings and funerals for smaller contributors.

How does Downing Street react to potential critics who will suggest that you cannot serve God and Mammon?

"It's all too easy to quote Biblical texts out of context," comes the angry response. "We stress the parable of the talents. Making the most of whatever spiritual and religious gifts you start with — that will certainly be the theme of the pre-launch advertising blitz.

There are rumours that the decisions to privatize the Church as a whole came only after considerable debate within Whitehall. The Office of Fair Trading is said to have recommended that the groups within it — Anglo-Catholic, high church, low church and born-again should be free to compete with one another.

Clericom's message of hope in 1988

The Prime Minister has come down firmly against it. "A national church is not a break-up situation" was the message from Downing Street this week.

Overall, British Clericom is designed to provide a message of hope in 1988. "Christmas today is all about giving," says one minister proudly. "What better gift could there be than an investment which combines faith, fun and family finance . . ?"

Stop Press: The Government has denied the story of this privatization as a malicious fabrication . . .

Just starting? It's a gift

CONAL GREGORY suggests starting youngsters on their investment careers this Christmas

Parents, godparents, uncles, aunts and other relatives, have a great opportunity at Christmas to start children or teenagers on the savings trail with an account of their own. And with most schemes tailor-made for the young, there will be friendly reminders of your gift during the coming year.

Banks and building societies are openly competing for this key sector, much as they did for the university student account.

With base lending rates at 8.5 per cent, the lowest since March 1984, it is important not only to compare investment rates offered but also to assess the bolt-on goodies of the different schemes.

Sheffield Building Society (66 Campo Lane, Sheffield S1 2EG) tops the children's rates with a net 9.5 per cent. For a minimum £1, the Children's account offered by the society can be opened and built up to £500, but a parent or grandparent must also have or open an account with the society.

Harpenden Building Society (14 Station Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 4SE) offers 9 per cent with its 18 Club. It presents a free T-shirt on opening, but one possible disadvantage is that the account cannot be closed until the 18th birthday.

In the West Country, the Frome Selwood Permanent Building Society (3 Market Place, Frome, Somerset BA11 1DQ) has a Gold Minor account for youngsters, paying 8.5 per cent net. If the child is under one year, the society adds £5 to the account. It pays interest twice a year, sends out birthday cards and gives complimentary money boxes on opening the account.

A free money box as well as a junior quiz are offered to those in the Junior Savings scheme of the Gainsborough Building Society (26 Lord Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire DN21 2DB). At the moment it pays 8.25 per cent, which will fall to 7.25 per cent on January 1. The account may be opened for £2 for anyone aged up to 16.

Ilkeston Permanent Building Society (16 Queen Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 5HQ) has a no-frills Children's Share, paying 8 per cent net for a minimum of £12 investment per year and a maximum of £120. The same rate is offered, but for a minimum £5, by the Rowley Regis Building Society (223 Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath, Warley, West Midlands B64 6JQ). This is for its Young Saver account, which goes up to 18 years.

Cards for both birthday and Christmas are sent by Bath Investment and Building Society (20 Charles Street, Bath, Avon BA1 1HY). Its Bertie Bibs account pays 7.75 per cent net for sums of £1 to £1,750. A free money box in the shape of a rabbit, an owl or a hedgehog is given on opening and there is a certificate to encourage saving when £50, £100 and £150 are reached.

The banks offer less attractive rates. Supersaver from the Bank of Scotland is best with 5.26 per cent net. A folder, a pen, a quarterly magazine and badges and a birthday card up to 16 years form part of the package.

Clydesdale's No 1 account includes a gift such as a camera and film when the child reaches £15. The account costs £10 to open.

Barclays has a magazine three times a year for its Supersaver account, which pays 4 per cent net. The money box costs £3 but includes a £2 token which can be credited to the child's account.

Midland Bank has two schemes for the young. Griffin, for those up to 10 years, comes with an action file, a pen and a magazine on the birthday. The same 4.25 per cent net rate is paid to holders of its No 1 account, which gives a choice of a leisure bag, including a T-shirt, or a camera, film and four photo-processing vouchers when £15 plus is saved.

Ceramic pigs are offered by the National Westminster in its aptly named Piggy account, which can be opened for just £1. Every time £25 is saved the child can have another pig.

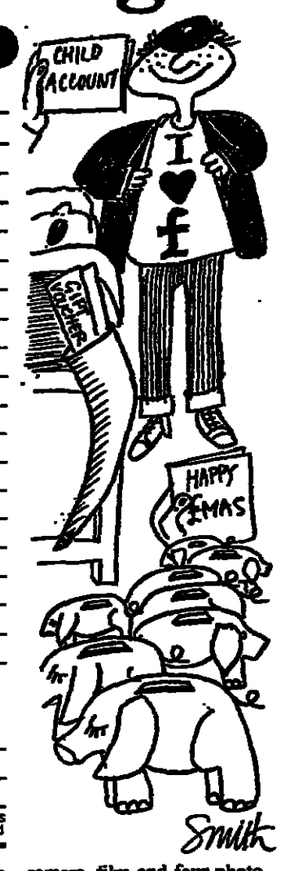
The TSB gives a poster to youngsters with its Jeans scheme. Every time a deposit is made the child is given a sticker and a larger present, such as a pocket calculator or digital clock, when he or she has been saving for a year.

Finally, among the more novel schemes to remind a child of your festive gift, the Peckham Building Society gives free membership of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds or other bodies with its Jumbo Savings account, where a sum of £1 to £50 a month is saved regularly.

CHILDREN'S SCHEMES

NET RATES	BANK/BUILDING SOCIETY
9.5%	Sheffield
9.0%	Harpenden
8.5%	Frome Selwood Permanent
8.25%	Gainsborough
8.0%	Weston Permanent, Rowley Regis
7.75%	Bath Investment
7.5%	Clay Cross Benefit [1], Nottingham Imperial
7.0%	Chesham
6.9%	Peckham
6.5%	Chelsea, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray
6.25%	Marsden, Portman
6.0%	North Wilts Ridgeway
5.75%	Haywards Heath and District [2]
5.5%	Britannia, Derbyshire
5.26%	Bank of Scotland
5.25%	Bristol & West
5.0%	Mansfield [3], Leeds Permanent, Scarborough
4.5%	Ipswich, Clydesdale Bank [2]
4.25%	Norwich and Peterborough, Saffron Walden and Essex, Midland Bank
4.0%	Abbey National [2], Birmingham Midshires, Bradford & Bingley, Cheltenham & Gloucester, Gateway, Furness [3] [4], Greenwich, Halifax, Lancastrian, Nationwide Anglia [5], National & Provincial [2], Skipton [2], Tipton and Coseley, West Bromwich, Yorkshire [5], Woolwich Equitable, Barclays Bank, National Westminster Bank
3.0%	TSB
1.0%	Royal Bank of Scotland

[1] Includes 1.75% bonus paid May and November [2] Higher rates for deposits of more than £500 [3] Higher rates for deposits of more than £100 [4] Plus £2.20 boxes on joining [5] Plus bonuses when various sums reached



Court of Appeal

Law Report December 19 1987

Court of Appeal

Right of detainee to consult solicitor

Regina v Samuel

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Hodgson and Mr Justice Rougier

[Judgment December 17]

A person detained in police custody had a fundamental right to consult a solicitor privately and, where it was sought to justify denial of that right on reasonable grounds, that could not be done except by reference to specific circumstances including evidence about the person detained or the actual solicitor involved.

The Court of Appeal, so held in a reserved judgment, when allowing the appeal of Cornelius Joseph Samuel against his conviction at Birmingham Crown Court (Judge Richard Cole and a jury) on April 13, and sentence of 10 years' imprisonment on a count of robbery. He was sentenced also to two years' imprisonment concurrent on two counts of burglary to which he had pleaded guilty.

Section 58 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 provides: "(1) A person arrested and held in custody in a police station shall be entitled if he so requests, to consult a solicitor privately at any time . . .

"(4) If a person makes such a request, he must be permitted to consult a solicitor as soon as is practicable except to the extent that delay is permitted by this section.

"(5) In any case he must be permitted to consult a solicitor within 36 hours . . .

"(6) Delay in compliance with a request is only permitted — (a) in the case of a person who is in police detention for a serious arrestable offence; and (b) if an officer of at least the rank of superintendent authorizes it . . .

"(8) An officer may only authorize delay where he has reasonable grounds for believing that the exercise of the right . . . (a) will lead to interference with or harm to evidence connected with a serious arrestable offence or interference with or physical injury to other persons; or (b) will lead to the alerting of other persons suspected of having committed such an offence but not yet arrested for it; or (c) will hinder the recovery of any property obtained as a result of such an offence."

Mr Brian Escott Cox, QC and Mr Philip Parker, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr David A. F. Jones for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE HODGSON, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had been arrested on suspicion of armed robbery at a branch of the Leeds Permanent Building Society in Birmingham.

He was arrested on August 6, 1986 at about 2pm and was interviewed twice and on the second occasion he asked to see a solicitor. That was refused by a superintendent who certified, among his reasons, that there was a likelihood of other suspects to be arrested being inadvertently warned.

The appellant had two further interviews, and on the second of those on the following day, he confessed to two burglaries but again denied the robbery as he had consistently done before.

At 4.45pm that day his solicitor telephoned the police station and was informed that his client had been charged with the two burglaries but was still not allowed access to a solicitor. Between 5.22pm and 5.40pm he was again interviewed and confessed to the robbery. He was charged at 6.20pm with that offence and was seen by his solicitor at 7.25pm.

The sole ground of appeal was that the trial judge was wrong in holding that the denial of access to a solicitor was justified, that he should have held that it was not justified and should have ruled that the evidence relating to the final interview was inadmissible.

Where delay in compliance with a request to consult a solicitor was authorized by a police officer under section 58(8) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 one or more of the grounds set out in subsection (8)(a) to (c) had to be satisfied.

In practice the only way that the person in custody could make any of the grounds in (8)(a) to (c) happen was by some communication from him to the solicitor. If the solicitor did something knowing that it would result in anything in (8)(a) to (c) happening he would, almost inevitably, commit a serious criminal offence.

Therefore, inadvertent or unwitting conduct apart, the police officer had to believe that the solicitor would, if allowed to communicate with a detained person, thereafter commit a criminal offence.

The number of times that a police officer could genuinely be in that state of belief would be rare. Moreover, to sustain such a basis for refusal the grounds put forward would have to have reference to a specific solicitor and it was not thought that they could ever be advanced in relation to solicitors generally.

In relation to inadvertent or unwilling conduct by a solicitor it had been said that the detained person would be able to bring about one or more of the happenings in (8)(a) to (c) by causing the solicitor to pass on unwittingly some form of coded message.

Whether there was any evidence that that had or might have happened in the past was not known.

Solicitors were intelligent professional people; persons detained by the police were frequently not very clever and the expectation that one of the events in (8)(a) to (c) would be brought about in that way seemed to contemplate a degree of intelligence and sophistication in persons detained and, perhaps, a naivete and lack of common sense in solicitors of doubtful occurrence.

When and if it did happen it would have to have reference to the specific person detained. The archetype would, it was imagined, be the sophisticated criminal who was known or suspected of being a member of a gang of criminals.

Their Lordships considered that the appellant had been denied improperly one of the most important and fundamental rights of a citizen. The trial judge had fallen into error in not so holding.

If he had arrived at correct decisions on the points argued before him he might well have concluded that the refusal of access and consequent unlawful interview compelled him to find that the admission of evidence as to the final interview would have "such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings" that he ought not to admit it.

Such a decision would, of course, have very significantly weakened the prosecution case (the failure to charge earlier ineluctably showed that).

In those circumstances the Court of Appeal considered that it had no alternative but to quash the appellant's conviction on the charge of robbery.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Birmingham.

Apportioning liability in counter-claim

Tennant Radiant Heat Ltd v Warrington Development Corporation

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice Caulfield

[Judgment December 16]

Where a plaintiff brought a claim in tort and the defendant made a counter-claim in contract, both claims being attributable to two concurrent causes operating contemporaneously, the problem of how liability should be apportioned could not be solved by applying the Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act 1945. The solution was to assess the recoverable damages for each claim on the basis of causation.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the defendants, Warrington Development Corporation, from the decision of Judge FitzHugh, QC, sitting in Manchester as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division on December 19, 1985

Mr John Mowbray, QC and Mr Nigel Howarth for the defendants; Mr Leolin Price, QC and Mr Brendan Hegarty for the plaintiffs, Tennant Radiant Heat Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the defendants owned a warehouse in Warrington part of which, known as Unit 6, was leased to the plaintiffs. On October 22, 1980 part of the roof of Unit 6 collapsed under the weight of rain-water accumulated above it. The plaintiffs' goods stored in Unit 6 were damaged and they claimed damages from the defendants.

The claim was put on the ground that on the true contruction of the lease and in order to give it business efficacy there was to be implied in the lease a covenant by the defendants to keep the roof and the rain-water outlets in the roof in good repair and condition, or alternatively on grounds of nuisance and negligence. The defendants denied liability and counter-claimed under the repairing covenants in the lease for the cost of repairing the roof.

The action and counter-claim came before the judge for trial on liability only. He held that a covenant by the defendants to keep the roof and the rain-water outlets in good repair and condition was to be implied in the lease, that the defendants were in breach of it and that there should be an inquiry as to damages on the plaintiffs' claim. He dismissed the defendants' counter-claim.

Although the lease had been carefully prepared there was no clause which pointed towards the plaintiffs contributing to the costs of repairs to be carried out by the defendants. But without a covenant by the plaintiffs to reimburse the costs, there was no commercial sense, so far as the defendants were concerned, in the defendants binding themselves by covenant to repair the roof; that would be wholly out of character for the present type of commercial lease.

His Lordship would hold that the part of the roof over Unit 6 and the rain-water outlet which was in that part of the roof were included in the parcels demised to the plaintiffs under the lease and were therefore covered by the plaintiffs' repairing covenant.

It followed that the plaintiffs were, when the roof collapsed, in breach of their repairing covenant in that they had failed to keep the part of the roof over Unit 6 and the rain-water outlet in it maintained repaired and cleansed and generally in good and substantial condition.

His Lordship turned to the plaintiffs' claim against the defendants in nuisance and negligence. On the facts the defendants had possession of all the unlet units and of the parts of the roof over them including all the rainwater outlets in those parts of the roof — by far and away the majority of the rainwater outlets. The defendants had been warned by their architects of the need to keep the outlets clear and the roof clean, and warned of the foreseeable consequences if that was not done.

His Lordship had no doubt that the defendants were liable to the plaintiffs in nuisance and negligence save if and in so far as the defendants were absolved from liability by the plaintiffs' own breach of their own repairing covenant in failing to keep the one outlet above Unit 6 clear. The crux of the appeal was therefore the interplay of the two liabilities.

What then was the effect in law? At this juncture it was natural to think of apportionment for contributory negligence under the Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act 1945 since (a) apportionment of liability in tort because of contributory negligence was the context in which questions of apportionment of liability usually arose and (b) the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Forsikringsaktielselskapet Vesta v Butcher* (*The Times* November 12, 1987) which was reported under the heading "Power to apportion blame in contract" only a few days before the hearing of the present appeal.

It was to be remembered, however, that the 1945 Act had a very limited function; it was enacted merely to override the archaic rule of the common law, which had long been recognized as unjust, that if a plaintiff sued in tort for damages for negligence his claim would wholly fail if it was shown that he had been guilty of any degree of contributory negligence, however slight, which was not *de minimis*.

In the *Vesta* case the court held that the 1945 Act applied, with the result that liability fell to be apportioned under it, where a plaintiff, who had been guilty of contributory negligence, chose to formulate in contract a claim against a defendant which was in substance a claim in tort and could equally have been formulated in tort. That was not the present case.

In the present case, the claim of the plaintiffs against the defendants was a claim in tort — nuisance or negligence, involving failure to take reasonable care to avoid a foreseeable danger but the defendants' cross-claim against the plaintiffs was not a claim in tort at all; it was a claim in contract — breach of an absolute repairing covenant in the lease — which could not be formulated as a claim in tort.

Therefore, in his Lordship's judgment, the 1945 Act had no application to the present case since the breach of covenant on the part of the plaintiffs did not fall within the statutory definition of "fault" in section 4 of the 1945 Act. More importantly, for present purposes, the Draconian rule of common law which the 1945 Act was passed to override also had no application to the present case since that rule had no relevance to a claim in or to a breach of contract which was not also itself tortious.

The problem which the court faced, on claim and counter-claim alike, was a problem of causation of damage. On the claim, the question was how far the damage to the plaintiffs' goods was caused by the defendants' negligence notwithstanding the plaintiffs' own breach of covenant.

On the counter-claim, the question was how far the damage to the defendants' building was caused by the plaintiffs' breach of covenant. The effect was that on each question, apportionment was permissible.

That was the same result as the 1945 Act would produce but it was not reached through the Act, because the obstacle which the 1945 Act was passed to override was not there on either claim or counter-claim in the present case.

In making the apportionment, his Lordship regarded as significant the number of outlets in the relevant half of the roof for which the defendants and the plaintiffs were respectively responsible and on a broad assessment would apportion liability as to 90 per cent to the defendants and 10 per cent to the plaintiffs.

Accordingly, his Lordship would allow the appeal and vary the order of the judge by directing an inquiry as to damages on the counter-claim in addition to the inquiry as to damages on the claim which the judge ordered.

His Lordship would then order the defendants to pay 90 per cent, and not the whole as ordered by the judge, of the plaintiffs' claim and order the plaintiffs to pay 10 per cent of the defendants' damages the subject of the counter-claim.

Lord Justice Croom-Johnson delivered a concurring judgment and Mr Justice Caulfied agreed.

Solicitors: A. W. Mawer & Co, Manchester; Pannone Blackburn, Manchester.

Move to improve speed of criminal appeals

Practice Direction: Notices of Appeal and Applications for Leave to Appeal

An amendment in serving notices of appeal designed to improve the speed with which appeals were heard was delivered by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, sitting in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) with Mr Justice Kenneth Jones and Mr Justice Leonard on December 18.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said: "With effect from January 1 next, rule 2(6) and (7) of the Criminal Appeal Rules (SI 1968 No 1262) will be amended by rule 2 of the Criminal Appeal (Amendment) Rules (SI 1987 No 1977 (L 9)) to provide that notices of appeal and of application for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, should be served not, as hitherto, directly on the Criminal Appeal Office but on the crown court at which the proceedings took place.

"The crown court will forward the notice to the Criminal Appeal Office together with the trial documents and any others which may be required.

"The purpose of this change is to get the necessary documents to the Criminal Appeal Office with the minimum delay."

His Lordship said that the change cut out one of the stages and would, his Lordship hoped, succeed in improving the speed with which appeals were heard.

In case of difficulty, practitioners should consult the crown court or the Criminal Appeal Office.

Right to conduct own case limited

Regina v Morley

Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice French

[Judgment December 15]

The right of a defendant in criminal proceedings to call witnesses and address the jury, conferred by section 2 of the Criminal Procedure Act 1865, was subject to the obligation upon the judge to ensure the proper conduct of the trial as a whole.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the appeal of Denis Jacob Morley against his conviction on March 6, 1986, after a retrial, at Nottingham Crown Court (Judge Petre and a jury) of burglary, on which he was sentenced on April 7 at the Central Criminal Court to an extended sentence of six years' imprisonment.

Mr Morley in person; Mr William Andreae-Jones, QC and Mr Andrew Congdon for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that at trial the appellant appeared in person, having dispensed with the services of his counsel. The manner in which he conducted his defence caused intense difficulty to the very experienced trial judge and grossly prolonged the proceedings.

The case for the prosecution in relation to the burglary was not complicated and it was estimated that the evidence in chief given by the prosecution witnesses lasted little more than an hour and a half after an opening of the case for the prosecution which lasted six minutes. The trial however extended over 38 days, though on several days the court was adjourned.

To impose some limitation on the length and expense of the trial the judge felt compelled to refuse the appellant's request for certain witness summonses, and to order the appellant to be removed from the court from time to time. His removal just prior to the commencement of the summing up deprived him of the opportunity of addressing the jury at the end of the evidence called on his behalf.

Section 2 of the 1865 Act could not be regarded as giving a licence to a defendant to behave how he liked; a defendant's entitlement under section 2 was conditional upon him using it for the purpose for which it was given, which was to advance and not to defeat the course of justice, and for the proper conduct of the trial.

The court had a reserved power to avoid its process being abused by a defendant. However, it was to be emphasized that that power, particularly in relation to the closing speech, was to be exercised exceedingly sparingly and really only when there was no alternative. This was one of those exceptional cases.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Nottinghamshire.

Compensation orders

Regina v Dorton

The imposition of a compensation order was a speedy, summary and cheap method of ensuring that where funds were available to compensate a victim, compensation should be paid. It was not right in every case to regard it as an additional punishment where a sentence of imprisonment was also imposed.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice French) so held on December 8 when dismissing the appeal of William John Dorton against the sentences imposed on him on October 2, 1987 in Croydon Crown Court (Judge Willis). For offences of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and damaging property he was sentenced to a total of two years' imprisonment, and compensation orders totalling £2,850 were imposed.

MR JUSTICE FRENCH said that had the victim in this case not been given the benefit of a compensation order she might well, if so advised, have brought civil proceedings against the appellant and have recovered judgment which could have been satisfied from the equity in the appellant's flat. It might be painful for an offender to have to pay compensation, but it would be equally painful if civil proceedings were brought, and indeed more so because of costs.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

The entrance of thy words giveth light: it giveth understanding unto the simple.
Psalm 119 : 130

BIRTHS

ATKINSON - On November 30th, in Leeds, to Heather and Richard, twin daughters, Jocelyn Nicole and Jacqueline Louise.

BENNETT - On December 16th, at Liverpool Maternity Hospital, to Cathy and Martyn a son, Edwin Neville John, a brother for Henry.

DASTUR - On December 17th, at West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, to Elizabeth (née Foulkes) and William, a son (Robin William Masson).

FOSTER - On December 8th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Mary (née Hommert) and Nigel, a daughter (Victoria Kate).

GILBERT - On December 17th at St. Luke's Hospital Guildford to Alison (née Pringle) and Simon, a son Graham John.

HALL - On December 11th 1987, to Lynne (née Pinson) and Bjorn a son James Henrik.

LEA - On December 17th 1987, at Princess Margaret's Hospital, to, Susan and Charles, a son, Christopher Charles, their first child god bless him.

MORRIS VERDON - On December 8th, To Araminta and Anthony at Fritford, a son, Arthur Micheal, a brother for Amelia.

RAWLE - On December 12th, at St. Peters Hospital, Guernsey, to Elizabeth (née Wyllie) and Martin, a daughter, Emma Jane. First grandchild for Lenard and Mary Rawle and Bruce and Alex.

SHUTTLEWORTH - On December 17th, to Camilla (née Mordaunt) and William, a daughter.

WAINWRIGHT - On December 15th 1987, at Guy's Hospital, to Claire (née Roberts) and Brandon, a daughter, Elanor.

WILSON - On December 14th 1987, to Elizabeth (née Swinburn) and Andrew a son Edward Andrew (Ned) a brother for Charlotta.

ADOPTIONS

OSLER - by John and Pamela, two sons, Charles and William, brothers for Jeremy and Rosemary.

MARRIAGES

LONG:FOLEY - On November 28th, at Westminster, Frank, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. Foley of Dublin, to Angela, second daughter of Mr and Mrs P.D. Long of Melbourne.

PLATT– PLATT - On December 18th, 1987, Anthony Platt to Sarah Platt, at Witney Registery office.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

NEWMAN-LAWS - On December 20th 1947, in Brisbane, Australia, Jack to Edna. Congratulations from friends and relatives in England.

RUDERMAN - Arthur and Gwenda. With best wishes and love on your 40th Wedding Anniversary from Christine, David, John and all the family.

REEVES - On December 17th, 1987, John Franklin M.G.D.S. B.D.S. L.D.S.R.C.S. after a short illness, aged 51 years. Beloved husband of Mary, and much loved father of Richard, Timothy, Philippa and Joanna. Funeral service at Birstall Parish church, Leicestershire on Wednesday December 23rd at 2.30 pm. Cremation following at Loughborough Crematorium. All flowers and enquiries to Ginns & Gutteridge Ltd, Funeral directors of Leicester. Tel: 0533 516117

DEATHS

BIRD - On December 17th, peacefully at home, after a long illness, courageously borne. Jamie aged 23, dearly loved youngest son of Bob and Mary (deceased) and brother to Malcolm and Graham. Funeral service at St. Peter's Church, Newnham-on-Severn on Tuesday, December 22nd at 3 pm. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to Hospicare, Mowbray Cottage, Butts Road, Exeter.

BRENNAN - On December 17th John, peacefully at home after a short illness, aged 88, loving husband of Eileen and father of Dennis, Catherine and Cecilia and much loved grandfather. Requiem mass at Ursuline Convent, 15 The Downs, Wimbledon, on Wednesday 23rd December at 9.30am.

BURSTALL - On December 14th, Christopher Maynard Hampton, son of Mr & Mrs Anthony Burstall of Peyfeilhouc, Vallon-en-Sully, France, in his 33rd year at Delhi, India. He leaves a wife Elizabetha and an 18 month old son, Nicolo.

CHRISTIE - On December 16th, peacefully in hospital, Pamela Mary, aged 70. Beloved wife of Michael. Much loved mother of Tim and the late Penny Blake, and grandmother of Oliver, Jeremy, Nicholas and William. Private family Cremation service. Memorial/Thanksgiving service at St. Mary's Church, Haddenham, at 2pm on Monday 25th January. No flowers but, if desired, donations to: Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX.

ELKINGTON - On December 16th, Joan of Graham Road, Malvern, peacefully at The White House, Adforton. Much loved sister and aunt. Cremation private. Thanksgiving service at The Priory, Malvern at 3.00pm on Tuesday 22nd December. Donations if desired to St. Michael's Hospice, Bartestree, Hereford

FRANCOMBE-A.N. - On December 16th 1987, 'Frankers' peacefully at home, in Limuru, Kenya.

HESSLETHWAITE - On December 16th 1987, at Hastings, Sydney Hebblethwaite C.M.G aged 75, beloved husband of Sal and devoted father of Sarah and Sue. Funeral service at 12.30 pm on Tuesday 22nd December at Saint Mary's, Rye.

HOLMAN - On December 15th, suddenly at his home in Denmark Road, Lowestoft, formerly of The Clapham Hotel, Lowestoft. Roy Basil aged 67 years, beloved husband of Rona, dear father of Dawn and Paul, father in law of Laurie and grandfather of Stuart and Ian and Kimberley. Funeral service to be held at St Andrew's Church, Roman Road, Lowestoft on Wednesday December 23rd at 11.15 am, followed by interment in Lowestoft cemetery. Flowers please to Powell's, 221 St Peter's Street, Lowestoft.

LESLIESMITH - On December 14th, 1987, Olga Doris Bruce (née Jackman), aged 86 years, widow of Norman Lesliesmith, dearly loved mother of Janet, mother in law of Ralph, Grandmother of Bruce, Rosalind and Timothy. Funeral service at Brookwood cemetery, Brookwood, Surrey, on Wednesday December 23rd at 12.00 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Cancer Reserch.

LOPEZ-REY - On December 15th, in Cambridge, Manuel, beloved husband of Grace. Requiem Mass, St. Lawrence's Church, Milton Road, Cambridge, 11.30 am on Wednesday 23rd December, followed by committal at Cambridge Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Addenbrooks Scanner Appeal.

LUCIE-SMITH - On December 17th, peacefully in her sleep at West Malling, Muriel aged 93 years. Funeral Service at West Malling Parish Church on Monday December 21st at 3pm.

MASSOLA - On December 16th, peacefully, Barone Gedpe. After cremation, the ashes will be buried next to his beloved mother at Levanto, Laspezia, Italy.

McGILCHRIST - On December 16th, Francois, peacefully after a short illness. Beloved Husband of Lorraine and father of Olivia and Alexandra. Service Christ Church, Victoria Road, W8. On Wednesday December 23rd at 2pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Jamaican High Commission for Charity.

McPEAKE - On December 18th, Alan Young McPeake, peacefully at home, aged 88, elder son of James Young McPeake and Gertrude (née Shields), most beloved husband of Agatha. He served in france 1918 with Connaught Rangers. Art editor and Director of the National Magazine Company, Nash's, Good Housekeeping and Harpers Queen. Funeral private. Family flowers only.

MILES - On December 17th 1987, at his home, Meldie House Glenurquhart Inverness-shire; peacefully after a long illness, fought with stoic dignity and his own inimitable style. Dr John Ralph F.R.C.G.P. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral at St. Ninians Church Glenurquhart at 12 midday on Monday December 21st. All friends welcome. Flowers may be sent to D Chisholm and Sons, Funeral home Humily Street, Inverness Scotland, by 10am.

MILNER - On December 17th 1987, in a Bournemouth nursing home, Guy Sommerville Milner of Park Manor, Branksome Park, Poole and formerly of London and Bristol. Funeral service at Bournemouth crematorium on Thursday December 24th at 12.30pm. No flowers please but donations in his memory for The World Wild Life Fund may be sent to Deric-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, 765 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

MOODY - On December 18th, suddenly in Winchester, Neil Malcolm Rowland Moody, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L. Formerly of Durley, aged 68. Beloved husband of Pat and a dearly loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Durley Parish Church on Wednesday December 23rd at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Friends of Countess Mount Bathen House, c/o John Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

RUSSELL - On December 16th 1987, suddenly, John Conrad Earl Russell, aged 66 years of Carn Voel, Porth Curno, Penzance, Cornwall. The cremation service will take place at Penmount, Truro on Wednesday, December 30th at 12.20pm. Flowers to Alfred Smith & Son, Chapel of Rest, Penzance.

SCOTT-EVANS - On December 9th, peacefully at Kidderminster General Hospital, Richard Scott-Evans, Major Duke of Wellington Regiment (retd), very dear brother of Monica. The Funeral Service took place at St. John's Church, Kidderminster on December 15th.

WILSON - On December 17th, at the Nelson Hospital, Wimbledon, Mary Ivy (née Popham) aged 94 years. Beloved mother of Pam and dearest 'Nan' to Tim, Peter and Michael. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Wednesday 23rd December at 12.30 pm. Flowers to Fredk Paine, Coombe Lane, SW20.

WINDROW - On December 16th, in Hospital, Cyril Featherstone (nick) husband of the late Constance, and brother of Kathleen Sagar. Funeral at Torquay Crematorium on Wednesday December 23rd at 3.00 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Torbay Hospital League of Friend's, C/O Torbay & District Funeral Service, Wellswood, Torquay.

WINTON - On December 17th 1987, Miss (Alice) Joan, peacefully, at Lancaster Lodge Nursing Home, Wimbledon.

WOODS - On December 17th 1987, Thomas Ian, formerly of East Horsley, Surrey. Peacefully at Cambridge.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

SKYNNER - A service of Thanksgiving for the life of Prudence Mary Skynner will be held at St Michael's Church, South Grove, Highgate on Saturday January 23rd 1988 at 11.00 am. Afterwards at the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution, 11 South Grove.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

ROADS - In ever-loving and constant memory of a devoted husband and father, Herbert Clifford Roads, who died 21 years ago today, 19th December - missed so very much. Vera and Christopher.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCEPT NATIONAL SERVICES extends warmest Xmas greetings to all Depots and Friends helping Accept fight alcoholism and drug abuse - 300 new cases per month plus their distressed families. Donations to assist to: 200, Seagrave Road, London SW6 1RQ

FRODO - Happy Christmas to all at Beeches End, Love Bilbo.

GIBBONS Brigadier John, of Epsom will not be sending out Christmas cards this year, but sends his warmest greetings and compliments of the season.

HISTOCK PLACE SCHOOL Centenary reunion on Saturday 9th January 1988, 3-6pm at the School. All past pupils and staff welcome.

MISSING - Incunable, printed in Mentovn (1476) Hebrew. Bechtuot'Osen printed by Rossi (1477). Any information please to - The Director, Biblioteca Nazionale di Torino, Italy.

NO 10 'Wot U drink Comrade'.

ST JUDE, Grateful thanks, J.Y.

THE BARNES WINE SHOP offers its final Christmas tasting tomorrow from 10am to 5pm. Tel: 01 878 8543

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ATTRACTIVE - Female early thirties wishes to meet that special man. Someone loving and considerate whose lifestyle reflects his ambition and success and who now has the time to form a long and sincere friendship - Photo appreciated. Reply to BOX K62.

BLAINE ROBINSON Please call Derek again at same number. Apologise for complete cross wires.

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KIMO Reading based graduate, English, 39, seeks attractive, blue-eyed girlfriend 32-37. Photo please. Reply to BOX H33.

OLD FRIENDS The introduction agency for men & women aged 40 and above. Details from: Anne Brent, 11a Highbury New Park, N5 2DR. Tel: 01-226-5402.

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DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

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COMPANY NOTICES

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held today, the following dividends were declared:

PREFERRED SHARES

A final quarterly dividend of fifteen cents (15c) Canadian per share on the outstanding Ordinary Shares in respect of the year 1987, payable on January 29, 1988, to holders of record at the close of business on December 24, 1987.

PREFERENCE SHARES

A final semi-annual dividend of 0.02 dollars per Canadian Dollar Preference Share and 'first pence per Sterling Preference Share on the outstanding Preference Shares in respect of the year 1987, payable on January 29, 1988, to holders of record at the close of business on December 24, 1987.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD.

D.I. DEEGAN

VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

MONTREAL. December 14,1987.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF
GETTY TRADING (UK) LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named Company which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 11 January 1988, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned I.P. Phillips FCA of Arthur Andersen & Co., 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

I.P. Phillips, Liquidator

7 December 1987

Notice of appointment of liquidator
(Members'Creditors)
voluntary winding up
Pursuant to section 600 of the Companies Act 1985

Company Number: 1980390. Name of Company: BRITISH OTTARINO LIMITED. Address of registered office: PO Box 88, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2 2NT. Liquidators name and address: I.P. Phillips, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R. Date of appointment: 10th December 1987. By whom appointed: The Company. Date: 15/12/87

I.P. Phillips
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of liquidator
(Members'Creditors)
voluntary winding up
Pursuant to section 600 of the Companies Act 1985

Company Number: 1137286. Name of Company: GETTY TRADING (UK) LIMITED. Principal business of company (if any): EARCO PETROLEUM LIMITED. Address of registered office: 49 Berkeley Square, London W1X 5DB. Liquidators name and address: Ian Peter Phillips FCA, PO Box 486, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2ST. Date of appointment: 3rd December 1987. By whom appointed: The members of the Company. Date: 7/12/1987

I.P Phillips
Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BRITISH OTTARINO LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2PS on Tuesday 22nd December, 1987 at 2.30 pm, for the purposes provided for in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2PS, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on Friday 18th December, 1987 and Monday 21st December, 1987.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must have a full statement of account (proof of debt) and unless attending in person) a proxy at 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NS no later than 12 noon on Monday 21st December. Should creditors wish to be represented by proxy, they must, if they wish to vote at the meeting, lodge such proxy not later than noon on the business day next before the meeting. Forms of proxy may be obtained from the undersigned.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
DANIEL O'BRIEN
Director

14/12/87

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s.27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the persons or persons making the request to be sent the particulars mentioned below before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the person or persons making the request having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

MANCH Dr Alma of 66 Abingdon Road, Kensington, who died on 22nd October 1987. Particulars to Lickfolds, Wiley & Powlesland, 2 Lickfolds Lane, Lincoln LN2 1AA. Solicitors for Messrs Lickfolds, Wiley & Powlesland. Closing date: 22nd February 1988.

RICKLING Gwynneth Daisy of Eastern Heart Nursing Home, Flitwickfield, Cherrywater, West Street, formerly of 207 Hawthorn Road, Bootle, Liverpool, died on 24th March 1987. Particulars to THOMPSON QUARRELL, Solicitors of 36 Bear Street, London WC2R 3BE, before 22nd February 1988.

SALMONE, Michael of 123 Cathcart Park Road, East Sheen, North died on 1st October 1987. Particulars to General Grant & Rose Solicitors of 349 Regents Park Road, London N3 1DH before 22nd February 1988.

SALMONE, Sheila of 123 Cathcart Park Road, East Sheen, North died on 7th September 1987. Particulars to General Grant & Rose Solicitors of 349 Regents Park Road, London N3 1DH before 22nd February 1988.

LEONARD ARTHUR BURGESS late of 'Quidnunc' 13 Cats Coast Rogerstone Gwent died 12th November 1987 : Particulars to Edwards and Tyrrell, Solicitors, 1 Cae Rhosyn Road Rogerstone, Newport, Gwent, NP1 0JW before 28th February 1988.

KARON Anna of 12 Hamstead Court, Finchley Road, London, NW11 died on 7th October 1987. Particulars to G.F. Powell Neale & Co., Solicitors of 82 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AB, before 22nd February 1988.

GEORGIOU, Eleni 171 Princes Avenue, London N13 4HS 19th September 1988. Executors Tyrrell Burgh & Co., Solicitors, Wyvern House, Wagmans Avenue, London N22 6DG before 22nd February 1988.

STANTON Maurice Alexander of Flat 1, 24 Linden Gardens, London W2 died on 2nd June 1987. Particulars to D.E. Long Solicitors of Vale Court, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3UL before 1st March 1988.

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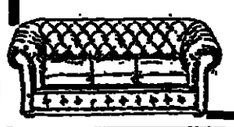
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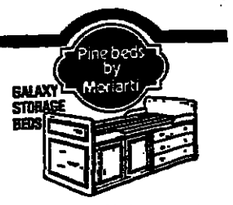
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Services tomorrow

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M: 11 S Euch. Asterna Christi Munera (Palestrina). Ave Maria (Victoria). Rev P G C Brett: 3.15 E. Responses (Gibbons & Barnard). Wood in G. Hymn to the Virgin (Britten): 6.30 ES. Rev K S Mason.

YORK MINSTER: 8. 8.45 HC: 10.15 S Euch. Bel Amfirit Altera (Lassus). Mr P Cunningham: 11.30 M. Jackson in G. Responses (Tomkins): 3. Morrill in E. Vex Angelis (Naylor). Rev E Ellery: 7.30 St Michael-le-Belfry's Carol Service.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 M. Purcell in B flat. Rev G Routledge: 11.30 HC. Missa Bell Amfitrit Altera (Lassus). The Advent Prose: 3.15 E. Collegium Sancti Johannis (Howells). Dies Irae (Mozart). Rev M Beck.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8, 11.40 HC: 10.30 M. Responses (Leighton). Dyson in F. And the glory of the Lord (Handel). Pauline Webb: 5 E. Antiphon O Oriens. Wood in E flat. Ave Maria (Bruckner). Canon C Seaton: 5.45 Organ recital: 6.30 ES. Canon A Harvey.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 Euch. Wood in the Phrygian mode. Ave Maria (Parsons). I sing of a maiden (Berkeley). Canon M Baddeley: 3 Christmas Carol Service.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM. Ave maris stella (Victoria). Ave maris stella (Elgar). Advent Prose (Lloyd). Aus

ENTERTAINMENTS

01-481 1920 — 01-481 1920

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

BELVEDERE ROAD LONDON SE1 8XX BOX OFFICE 10am-9pm DAILY Tel: 01 928 8191 CC 01 928 8800 FIRST CALL 24hr 7 DAY CC 01 240 7200 (Booking fee)

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Saturday 19 Dec 7.30 pm	FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVENING Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra Sir Charles Groves (cond) Wagner Prelude to Act III Lohengrin, Saint Saëns Bacchanale (Samson & Dalilah), Rossini/Respighi Scenes from La boutique fantasque; Ravel Bolero; Carols for choirs & audience. RETURNS ONLY	ERNA
Sunday 20 Dec 3.15 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Carlo Maria Giulini (conductor) Radu Lupu (piano) Schumann Overture, Manfred; Piano Concerto Symphony No. 3 (Rhenish) £2, £4, £6, £7, £9, £10, £12, £14, £16	Philharmonia Ltd
Sunday 20 Dec 7.30 pm	BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHORUS, BBC SINGERS Andrew Davis (conductor) Debussy Nocturnes, Respighi Pines of Rome, Ravel Daphnis and Chloe (complete) Pre-concert talk Waterloo Room 6.15 pm Robert Cringley on Debussy and Ravel. Free admission by concert ticket. £2, £3.50, £5, £8, £11	BBC
Saturday 26 Dec to Saturday 16 Jan	LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET Peter Schaufuss' production of THE NUTCRACKER Opens 26 Dec at 3pm & 7.30pm. 28 Dec-2 Jan at 3pm & 7.30pm. 4-16 Jan at 7.30pm Sat Mats 3pm No Sunday performances £4.50, £7.50, £10.50, £13, £15.50 Concs. info reg 01-998 3009	LFB
Sunday 27 Dec 3.00 pm & 7.30 pm	JOHANN STRAUSS GALA Johann Strauss Orchestra dir from the violin by Josha Bradbury. Aces Aaaaaa (sop) Johann Strauss Dancers in costume Music of the Strauss family incl Marches, Galops, Waltzes & Polkas 3pm perf £9.50, £6, £7, £8, £10.50. 7.30pm perf £4.50 £5.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10, £11.50, £12.50	Raymond Gubbay Ltd

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Saturday 19 Dec 7.45 pm	FROM DIXIELAND TO SWING Alan Elsdon and his All-Star Jazz Band, Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight. One of Britain's top trumpeters & the remarkable 80 years old King of the Bass Sax bring their full bands to the Room Bass for another evening of nostalgia £3, £3.50, £7 (only)	Michael Webber Promotions Ltd
Sunday 20 Dec 3.15 pm	CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE City of London Choir Donald Cashmore (conductor) Evelyn Glennie (percussion) John Birch (organ) RETURNS ONLY	City of London Choir
Sunday 20 Dec 7.45 pm	NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRA Howard Williams (cond) MacCann Land of the Mountain and the Flood; Elgar 3 Bavarian Dances Sibelius Karelia Suite, Bartok Hungarian March Borodin Nocturne, Kenneth Hesketh Scherzo, Shostakovitch Excerpts from The Firebird Suite £3, £4, £5, £6	National Children's Orchestra
Monday 21 Dec 7.45 pm	A MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA New London Consort Philip Pickett (dir) Yule-tide carols, songs, dances, instrumental music & popular entertainment from the time when there really were "12 days of Christmas". Free medieval entertainments in the Foyer from 5.30pm RETURNS ONLY	New London Consort
Tuesday 22 Dec 7.45 pm	ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS Iona Brown (director) Vivaldi Concerto in G RV.575, From Concerti Grossi Op. 3 (L'estro armonico), No 9 in D; No 11 in D minor. No 7 in F, No 8 in A minor; No 12 in E. No. 10 in B minor £3.50, £5, £6.50, £8, £9	Academy Concerti Society Ltd
26 Dec to 3 Jan at 7.45. Sun Mats 3 pm	MONSIEUR OFFENBACH'S CHRISTMAS PARTY. London Concert Orchestra, Chorus & Dancers Simon Phipps (cond). A rumbustuous Christmas revelry incl fully costumed excerpts from La Belle Hélène, Orpheus in the Underworld, La Vie Parisienne, The Tales of Hoffmann & others. £5, £6.50, £8.50, £10.50, £12.50	SBS/Raymond Gubbay

PURCELL ROOM

Saturday 19 Dec 7.30 pm	A MAN, A WOMAN & A DOUBLE BASS Lionel Blake (voice/cello) Peter Blackstock (d-bass) Kaitz The Less Comfortable in Las Vegas; Boccherini Sonata in A, Paganini Duets; Hoagy Carmichael Skylark; Cole Seemanita & Mehitabel Mazpeer, plus Gershwin & Cole Porter arrangements. £4.50 (only)	Jumbo-Ranger Man
Sunday 20 Dec 3.15 pm	MICHAEL & DOREEN MUSKETT CHRISTMAS BOX A varied and delightful programme of festive music for children and parents which evokes the atmosphere of Christmas long ago using traditional instruments of many countries £3, £3.50, £4.50 The Early Music Duo	
Sunday 20 Dec 7.30 pm	NAOMI DAVIDOV WITH GUEST Naomi Davidov (piano) Tristan Fry (percussion) Best loved & lesser known rags of Scott Joplin & his contemporaries incl Maple Leaf The Entertainer & Solace, plus works by Debussy, Ravel, Stravinsky, Fats Waller, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Gershwin. £3, £3.50 £4.50	Emperor Concerts
Monday 21 Dec 7.30 pm	DRAGONSFIRE Nigel Perrone-Wright, Hilary Perrone-Wright, Niall Bregenzer, Stephen Bromage. This vocal and multi-instrumental quartet performs carols, music and song from the Middle Ages to the present day. £3.50 (only)	Dragonsfire
Tuesday 22 Dec 7.30 pm	ORPINGTON JUNIOR SINGERS Sybil Ball (conductor) Joy Williams (piano) Rachel Masters (harp) A concert of Christmas music All seats £2.50	Orpington Junior Singers

MONSIEUR OFFENBACH'S CHRISTMAS PARTY IN FULL COSTUME QEH 26 December – 3 January

St John's Smith Square

London SW1P 3HA Director: Paul Davies Box Office CC 01-222 1061

Saturday 19 Dec 7.30 pm	PROMETHEUS ENSEMBLE Introduced by John Amis. Beethoven: Piano and wind quintet in E flat Op. 16. Poulenc: Trio for oboe bassoon and piano (1926). Mozart: Piano and wood quintet in E flat. K452. Poulenc: Sextuor for piano and wind. £4.50 £3.50 (concessions £3.50)	
Sunday 20 Dec 3.15 pm	FESTIVE CONCERT. VIVALDI CONCERTANTE. Joseph Pilbery, Gillian Eastwood, Mary Pilbery, Nicholas Duncan/Julian Pooris/ Jeremy Banks (trumpets). Works by Bach, Telemann, Vivaldi, Rosetti, Crosse & Carols for audience. £3, £4.50, £4.50, £5.	Sponsored by Printronics
Monday 21 Dec 7.30 pm	CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA OF ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE. Quiristers of Winchester College. John Lubbock conductor. Justin Lavender tenor: Corelli: Christmas Concerto. Albinoni: Adagio. Bellini: St Nicolas Cantata. A selection of Christmas Carols. SOLD OUT - RETURNS ONLY	
Tuesday 22 Dec 3.30 pm	CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA OF ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE. John Lubbock conductor Corelli: Christmas Concerto. Albinoni: Adagio A selection of Christmas Carols for Choir and Audience. £3, £5 (concessions £3)	

TUESDAY NEXT 22 DECEMBER at 3.30 pm

ORCHESTRA & CHOIR OF ST. JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

Conductor: JOHN LUBBOCK

FAMILY CAROL CONCERT

Carols for choir and audience

See St. John's Panel for details

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 5 836 3161 CC 240 5258. ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. Tom't & Tues 7.30 Nimrod & Gretel.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911. Sitdwy Into 836 6903. 5 CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Box Office closed Dec 24 & 25. Tom't. 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET Cinderella. Ballet casting info 01 240 9811. Tues 7.30 THE ROYAL OPERA L'elisir d'amore. Thu, Fri no perfs.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24 hr 7 day 240 7200 Until 2 Jan. Eves 7.30 pm, No Perfs 20,26,25,27 Dec MICHAEL CLARK & COMPANY in Because We Must. From 5 Jan SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET The Snow Ocean

EXHIBITIONS

EMPERORS TERRACOTTA WARRIORS. Royal Horticultural Society's Old Hall, Vincent Square, SW1. £4.50. Adults, £3 chits. 09.30 - 21.00 except tuesday 09.30 - 18.00, W/E 10.00 - 21.00. December 14th - Feb 20th. Tel: 01-828-2768.

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611 cc 240 7913 /4 CC 741 9999/ 836 7358/ 379 4444 Grp Sales 930 6123 First Call 24hr cc 240 7200 (no big fee) NOW BOOKING TO APRIL 2 ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" S Express

ALBERY 836 3878 cc 379 6565 741 9999 379 4444 240 7200 Groups 836 3962 NICHOLAS LYNDHURST "Scott winning talent" D Mail "The star of tonight" FT in Larry Shue's New Comedy THE FOREIGNER "WONDERFULLY DROLL" D Exp "Screamingly funny" D Mail Eves 8 Mats Thurs & Sat 3

ALDWYCH 01 836 6404/0641 cc 379 6233/741 9999 First call 240 7200 (bkg fee) Eves 7.30. Saturday 5 & 8.30 FOR A LIMITED SEASON ONLY MICHAEL GAMBON BEST ACTOR OF THE YEAR Standard Awards And In National Theatre production of A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE By Arthur Miller Directed by Alan Ayckbourn

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111/2 cc 836 1171. First Call (24 hrs/7 days) 240 7200 (bkg fee). Eves 7.30. Wed mat 3. Sat 4 & 8 Royal Shakespeare Company's LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES Winner of 4 "BEST PLAY" awards. Some tickets avail Mats NOW BOOKING TO JUNE '88 24 Dec at 3pm only - this avail.

ARTS THEATRE Gt Newport St. WC2 836 2132 cc 741 9999 GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S CANDIDA "Comic through and through" Times. Prevs Jan 6 Opens Jan 12

APOLLO 437 2663 CC 434 3598 CC with bkg fee First Call 24hr/7days 240 7200/CCTB 741 9999/Open All Hours 379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123 "NICELY NERVE-RACKED EVENING" E.Shorter DINSDALE LANDEN CAROL DENNISWATER and JEREMY BULLOCH in DANGEROUS OBSESSION Gripping new thriller by M J Crisp "Powerfully applies the brakes of terror" Times. "HOLDS YOUR NERVES AT GUNPOINT...TENSION JUNKIES WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED" D. Mail Eves 8pm, Sat 5.30 & 8.30, Mats Thu 3.00pm EXTRA PERF 24 DEC at 3.00

APOLLO VICTORIA SB 828 8665 cc 630 8262 Party bkgs 828 5188 Open All Hours 379 4444 cc 1st Call 240 7200 K Prowse 741 9999 Grps 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.0 "PHENOMENAL...YOU HAVE TO SEE IT" D.Tel STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyric by RICHARD STILGOE and TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues mats NOW BOOKING TO SEPT '88

BARBICAN THEATRE 01 638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-9pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Today, Tues, Wed 2.0 & 7.30. Mon 7.30. THE WIZARD OF OZ THIS CHRISTMAS THE RSC GOES OVER THE RAINBOW! Perfs (Mon-Sat) until 9 Jan. then 18-23 Jan. 8-13, 22-27 Feb. (Groups 930 6123) THE FIX Today 2.0 & 7.30, thu 7.30 Dec 24 OLD YEAR'S EVE by Peter Speyer. SPECULATORS thu Mon. Students £4.50 in advance.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE Earlham St. WC2 Box Office & CC 01-379 6299 (NO BKG FEE), CC 1st Call 24hr/7 day 240 7200 (NO BKG FEE), Group Sales CCTB 741 9999 (NO BKG FEE) & Open All Hrs 379 4444 (BKG FEE). Group Sales 930 6123 LIBLI DENNIS COLE JAN HARVEY in the "...DELIGHTFULLY ZESTFUL PRODUCTION OF THE BROADWAY MUSICAL" D. Ex- PETER PAN "...A MISSING SUCCESS" Sat. "...ENTERTAINING TO ADULTS...AND A TREAT FOR ADULTS-TO-BE" D. Tel. Eves 7.30, Wed & Sat mats 2.30

COMEDY 01-930 2578/8778 cc 839 1438 & 741 9999 Group Sales 930 6123 "A NEW ROMANCE. CAN SMILEY FAIL TO MOVE" City Limits DAVID SUCHET/SASHA REEVES "Very funny. Kill for a ticket" Nic London SEPARATION by Tom Kempinski directed by Michael Attenborough "A BLAZING DUET OF A PLAY. REEVES AND SUCHET RAISE THE ROOF" Sun Times. Mon-Thu 8.0, Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.45

COTTESLOE National Theatre 928 2252 Today 2.30 & 7.30. Mon 7.30 THE TANK MINE new play by Nick Darke.

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 cc 836 9837/379 4444/240 7200/ 741 9999 Grps 930 6123 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S AND THEN THERE WERE NONE "QUITE IRRESISTIBLE" D Mir "A STUBBORNLY ORIGINAL PLOT" D Tel. "A TRUE COMEDY THRILLER" LBC Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5 EXTRA PERF DEC 28 AT 5PM

BARBICAN 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (24hr bkg fee), 741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) WILLIAM GAUNT ROMEDA IAN TALBOT ROBERTS WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR...TROUSERS? by Ray Galton & John Antrobus Eves 8 Mats Tues 3, Sat 5 OVER 250 PERFS! THE NEW HIT COMEDY. NOW BOOKING TO MAY '88 XMAS EVE MAT 3 pm

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/ 741 9999. First Call 240 7200 (bkg fee). MAGGIE SMITH Nominated best actress: Olivier Awards MARGARET TYZACK in LETTICE AND LOVAGE nominated best play: Olivier Awards a new comedy by PETER SHAFFER with RICHARD PEARSON directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE Mon-Sat 7.45 sharp, Sat Mat 3.00

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. 01 853 3800 (no bkg fee) Evenings at 7.45. Mat Sat 2.30 BELLS ARE RINGING The Camden & Greenwich Musical co. "...delightful" LISTEN MACKIE radiates gaiety...well partnered by RAY LONNEN" Gdn. "silent welcome" F.Times.

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301 NEVER SWIM EAST AND WEST by Richard Nelson. Eves 8 pm, Sat 4.30 & 8pm. No perfs 24,25 Dec

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & cc 01-930 9832 Progressives from Dec 15 OPENS DEC 18 at 7.0 MICHAEL HORDERN IRENE WORTH and MICHAEL DENISON in YOU NEVER CAN TELL by Bernard Shaw Directed by TONY ROBERTSON Eves 7.30, Sat 5.00 & 8.00 No Perf Xmas Eve. First Call 24hr/ 7-day cc bkgs 01-240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-836 8108. 01-240 9066/7. First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee). Open All Hours 01 379 4444 (no bkg fee) David Merrick's 42ND STREET A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984 voted BEST MUSICAL STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS voted BEST MUSICAL LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD voted BEST MUSICAL PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD Eves 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0, Sat 5.0 & 8.30. Xmas Mat Dec 22 at 3pm in aid of Standard Trea Appeal. Reduced price mat Weds. Students and OAP's standby. Group Sales 930 6123 4TH GREAT YEAR

FORTUNE THEATRE 836 2238 cc 741 9999 Eves Mon-Fri 8pm Sat 8.30 Mat Thurs at 3pm/Sat 5pm NUNSENSE THE FUNNY NUNNY MUSICAL "A Comic Riot Loaded w Fun" BBC "Wacky & Totally Entertaining" ILR "Phenomenal Success" Drews Bkg Fee 1st Call 240 7200 Open All Hours 379 4444 Grp Sales 930 6123 Xmas perfs 24 Dec Mat 2pm only 25 Dec No perfs 26 Dec 5pm & 8.30pm Over 3000 Perfs MUST END JAN 16 PRIOR TO WORLD TOUR

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/ 741 9999. First Call 240 7200 (bkg fee). MAGGIE SMITH Nominated best actress: Olivier Awards MARGARET TYZACK in LETTICE AND LOVAGE nominated best play: Olivier Awards a new comedy by PETER SHAFFER with RICHARD PEARSON directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE Mon-Sat 7.45 sharp, Sat Mat 3.00

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HER MAJESTYS Haymarket 839 2244 CC 240 (bkg fee) 379 4444/930 7216 Grp Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS CLAIRE MICHAEL MOORE BALL Rebecca Caine plays Christine in certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Only Subsidy Seats £7.50 remain for Wed Mats July-Sept '88

NUNSENSE THE FUNNY NUNNY MUSICAL "A Comic Riot Loaded w Fun" BBC "Wacky & Totally Entertaining" ILR "Phenomenal Success" Drews Bkg Fee 1st Call 240 7200 Open All Hours 379 4444 Grp Sales 930 6123 Xmas perfs 24 Dec Mat 2pm only 25 Dec No perfs 26 Dec 5pm & 8.30pm Over 3000 Perfs MUST END JAN 16 PRIOR TO WORLD TOUR

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 Opens Mon Dec. 21 at 7.00 Red. Price Previs Until Sat Dec 19 TOMMY & CANNON BOBBY BALL with Darek Cristina Barbara Windsor Cheryl Baker Peter Howitt with John Inman in the Lavish New Production of BABES IN THE WOOD with Special Guest Star ROD HULL & EMU Matsr CC accepted. First Call 24 hr 7 day cc bkgs. 01-240 7200 Eves 7.30 Mats 3 01-379 4444 CCTB 01-741 9999 (No bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123 Special Party Concessions apply Box Office.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311. Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 LYLE DEVENISH THE FROGBITS Eves 8pm (2 shows - call Box Office for details).

LYTTELTON National Theatre 928 2252. Today 10.30 & 2.00 THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA for children, by Adrian Mitchell. Tom't & Mon 7.45 WAITING FOR GODOT by Samuel Beckett.

MAYFAIR CC 629 3036/ 379 4444 Mon Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5.40 & 8.10 RICHARD TODD in "The Best Thriller for years" S Mir THE BUSINESS OF MURDER "An ingenious whodunit" S Exp "SENSATIONAL" Times 7TH THRILLING YEARS

MAYFAIR 01 629 3037 Until January 2 Tuesday dark/ 2.0 & 4.0 Weds & Sats 10.30, 2.0 & 4.0 SOOTY'S XMAS SHOW

MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 5568/638 8891/741 9999/First Call 240 7200 (Groups 930 6123) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Today, Tues, Wed 2.0 & 7.30. Mon 7.30. THE ROVER by Aphra Behn "HURRY, HURRY FOR YOUR GOOD, GOOD, GOOD, GOOD ENTERTAINMENT' D.Mail. Few tickets still available for Performances 2, 6, 7, January

NATIONAL THEATRE CC 01-928 2252 CC Agencies, bkg fee: 379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 See OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/ COTTESLOE Cheap seats days of perfs from 10am.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444 Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS Group Sales 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567. NOW BOOKING TO JUNE 88 Many Seats avail for extra Xmas Mats 23, 28, 29, 30 December. No Perf Xmas Eve.

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 Eves 7.30, Wed Mats 2.30, Sats 4.0 & 7.45. EXTRA XMAS MATS DEC 24 & 29 AT 2.30 Nominated for 4 Laurence Olivier Awards 1987 "THE BEST MUSICAL IN LONDON" NY Post Royal Shakespeare Company in KISS ME KATE with JAMES SMILLIE NICHOLA McAULIFFE TIM FLAVIN "COLE PORTER'S GLORIOUS MUSICAL" D.Tele. CC Nos bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 4444/1st Call 240 7200/KP 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123 Transfers to Savoy Theatre 15 Jan 1988

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444 First Call 24Hr 7 Day cc 240 7200 Grp Sales 930 6123 "THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek Winner of 8 Tony Awards inc BEST MUSICAL LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Limousines not admitted until the interval "FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 24 '88 Special Xmas Mats 23 24 29 Dec

PHOENIX THEATRE 240 9661 836 2294 cc 741 9999 379 4444 240 7200 (bkg fee) ALBERT FINNEY "A blazing performance" S.Times BOB PECK in J J FARR "A searing, serious, thoughtful play" S.Times by DONALD HARWOOD Eves 8, Mats Thu & Sat 3 LAST WEEKS. CLOSES DEC 26.

PICCADILLY 437 4506 CC 379 6565/4444 Open All Hours/ 741 9999. "AN UNSTOPPABLE SUCCESS" D. Express BLUES IN THE NIGHT Nominated MUSICAL OF THE YEAR CAROL WOODS Nominated BEST ACTRESS In a Musical Laurence Olivier Award 87 LOW PRICE SHOWS FRI 1 MAT 6.30. Mon-Thu 8, Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9. No perfs Dec 24, 25. Dec 26 at 5 & 8

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401. CC 240 7200/379 4444 (24 hrs bkg fee) & CC 741 9999 (bkg fee). Limited Season A Christmas Treat for all Ages IAN McKELLEN ACTING SHAKESPEARE Eves 8pm Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9pm No perfs 24, 25 Dec. 26 Dec 9pm only. Tkts £5 - £14.50 ALL PROCEEDS TO LONDON LIGHTHOUSE AIDS HOSPICE

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5987 GEORGE GILLI CRAVEN BELGOURT RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S SOUTH PACIFIC Previews from January 9. Credit Cards 240 7200 (24hrs) Group Sales 930 6123

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5987 First Call 24hr-7 day (BKG FEE) 240 7200. Grps 930 1940 ALLO ALLO Eves 8.0. Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.40 ONLY 3 MORE WEEKS!

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 ALL tel cc bkgs FIRST CALL 24 hour 7 day on 836 3464 Grp Sales 930 6123. Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30 BEST MUSICAL 1986 Drama Magazine CHESS "A GRAND MASTER OF A SHOW" Newsweek Now booking to July 88 APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS

QUEENS 734 1166/0261/0120 cc 741 9999 24hr 7day cc 240 7200 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123. Eves 8 Mats Wed & Sat 3 FRANK, FRAY WENDY CRAIG BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT "BRILLIANT" PA "A THRUMPH" D Exp "A SMASH HIT" The People by JEFFREY ARCHER DAVID JASON JEFFRY LAMSTON WICKHAM ANDREW CRUICKSHANK Directed by DAVID GILMORE Mon-Fri 8 Mat Thu 3 Sat 5 & 8.30 NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 88 Extra Xmas Matinee 22 Dec at 3

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. Loft Stage 1 "An amazing play" Gdn. A LIE OF THE MIND by SAM SHEPARD. Eves. 7.30. Sat Mats 2.30.

ROYAL COURT UPSTAIRS 730 2554. Ends Tom't Pelles Pough Belgrade Theatre, Coventry present THE WAY TO GO HOME by Rona Munro. Dir by Pip Broughton at 8.00 pm Mats 4.00 pm

ROYALTY 01 831 0660 CC 01 240 7200 (bkg fee) Until Jan 30. Today, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 2.30pm, 6.30pm. No perfs Fri WINNIE-THE-POOH by AA Milne. Not suitable for children under 4 years old

SADLERS WELLS 278 8916 Please see Opera/Ballet Section.

SAVOY THEATRE 836 8888. CC & Groups 379 6219. 836 0479/ 741 9999. First Call 240 7200 (bkg fee). Group Sales 930 6123 WINNER BEST MUSICAL 1987 Standard Drama Awards & Drama Magazine Awards DIANA RIGG JULIA McKENZIE DANIEL MASSEY DAVID HEALY & DOLORES GRAY FOLLIES The Sondheim/Goldman Musical "A TRULY FANTASTIC EVENING" F.T. Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3. APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS Box office phones open 9am-9pm Discounts available for groups for Wed Mats, Special Xmas Mats. 21, 23, 26 Dec. No Perf Xmas Eve.

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CAMDEN PLAZA opp Camden Town Tube 485 2443. THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK (18) 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3. 351 3742. HOUSEKEEPING (PG) 1.55 3.55 6.20 8.45.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737. Yves Montand in MANON DES SOURCES (PG) Film at 1.15 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.30. "It has the mark of a classic" Times.

CURZON PHOENIX Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 Yves Montand & Gerard Depardieu in JEAN DE FLORETTE (PG) Film at 1.15 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.30.

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LUMIERE CINEMA St Martins Lane WC2 379 3014 / 836 0691 THE DEAD (U) 1.40 3.30 5.20 7.15 9.15.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235 4225 CROCODILE DUNDEE (15) Daily: 3.00 5.0 7.0 9.0 Cinema closed: Dec 24,25,26,27,28.

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COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

Christmas Songs, Music and Carols for all the Family inc. Christmas Overture (Spot the Carols Competition), Sleigh Ride, Jingle Bell Rock, Winter Wonderland, Twelve Days of Christmas, Christmas is Coming, Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring, Three Kings from Persian Lands. Carols for Orchestra, Choir and Audience and a special visit by Father Christmas.

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BOYS CHOIR FROM KING'S HOUSE SCHOOL, RICHMOND

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SATURDAY NEXT 26 DECEMBER at 3.30 p.m.

SPANISH FIESTA

CARLOS BONELL guitar with his Ensemble inc. MARA DEL SOL (flute & panpip

SKIING: ITALY'S SLALOM FIND AIMS TO EQUAL STENMARK RECORD THIS WEEKEND IN YUGOSLAVIA

Tomba going for Kranjska double

Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia (Reuter) — Alberto Tomba, the new Italian star of the skiing slopes, hopes to celebrate his 21st birthday today with his fifth successive World Cup victory.

The muscular paramilitary policeman from the suburbs of Bologna dominated his first four races of the season. If he wins today's giant slalom and the slalom tomorrow, he will equal the record set in 1977/78 by Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden.

Tomba, known as 'the beast' because of his strength, gained recoguition last February when he won a bronze medal in the giant slalom at the world championships. He won his first World Cup race three weeks ago in Sestriere and has not looked back since.

"I know the winning cannot go on for ever, but I feel quite confident and hope to score another victory on Saturday and maybe even Sunday," said Tomba who is dubbed the heir of Gustav Thoeni, the best Italian skier ever. Stenmark, runner-up to Tomba in the opening giant slalom in Sestriere, said: "Tomba is in a perfect form at the moment and very hard to beat, but in skiing you never know what can happen."

Yugoslavia's hopes of finding anyone to encourage local support and challenge the other top skiers appear to be slim. The best chance seems to rest with Bojan Krizaj, last season's World Cup slalom winner. He won here a year ago and with his teammate, Grega Benedik, will try tomorrow to recover his best form after early season defeats.

Finding a way to stop Tomba was the big question facing the skiers as they unpacked yesterday morning. Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen, last season's overall winner, and Joel Gaspoz, who has won three giant slaloms here, are likely to be the chief challengers. But skiing history could be in the making.

At Piancavallo in Italy, the Swiss women will be trying this weekend to step from the unaccustomed shadow of defeat when their World Cup circuit returns to the Italian slopes for a slalom and giant slalom.

The Swiss swept all before them last season when they took top honours in all four individual disciplines and the overall champion's trophy. But despite their continuing dominance in downhill, they have been in the leading positions only twice in the five slalom and super-giant slalom races so far this season.

Michela Figini, the downhill champion, won the super-giant at Leukerbad in Switzerland last weekend while in Italy, where the season began, the best Swiss placing was third for Vreni Schneider in the opening slalom at Sestriere.

Schneider and the overall champion, Maria Walliser, will have their first opportunity to defend the giant slalom title they hold jointly when the first of this season's six races is run on Piancavallo's man-made snow tomorrow.

They will face tough competition from Mateja Svet, of Yugoslavia, winner of two giant slaloms last season and three medals at the 1987 world championships.

The slalom today is likely to see a strong challenge to the Swiss from both a revitalised Austrian team and the surprise Spanish talent of Blanca Fernandez-Ochoa. The Austrians have gone from strength to strength in the slalom with Anita Wachter leading a clean sweep at Courmayeur and Ida Ladstätter skiing to a first World Cup victory at Leukerbad last Sunday.

Ladstätter, who almost retired last year after a poor season, leads the slalom standings on 47 points, seven clear of Fernandez-Ochoa. The Spaniard, in a class of her own at home, finished first in the Sestriere slalom and third at Leukerbad in a discipline she says is not her strongest.

She also lies second in the overall standings on 61 points behind Figini, whose victories in both the downhill and super-giant at Leukerbad lifted her tally to 77 points.

Warmer weather on the lower slopes in Austria was hampering the nordic skiers. At Hochfilzen, yesterday's races in the biathlon World Cup, the men's 10 kilometres and the women's 5,000 metres could not be held. The events had already been brought forward from their original dates tomorrow in an attempt to forestall the rising temperatures.

On the other side of the world, Finland's Matti Nykanen, the Olympic 90 metres champion, was favourite to win the continuing World Cup ski jumping contest this weekend on the 1972 Olympic hills at Sapporo, Japan.

Nykanen, who won both events in Sapporo last year, was a comfortable winner on both 70 metre and 90 metre hills in the season's opening round at Thunder Bay, Canada, two weeks ago. However, Pavel Ploc, of Czechoslovakia, took the overall lead after winning both jumps at Lake Placid last week in Nykanen's absence.

POINT-TO-POINT



Sea Express congratulated by proud owner Ralph Morgans and trainer Bert Lavis (right) after his triumph in *The Times* championship final at Towcester in May

Under starter's orders for Times championship

By Brian Beel

The Times today announces it is to repeat its sponsorship of the novices championship series that was one of the highlights of the last point-to-point season, giving extra incentive to owners of young horses and extra pleasure to thousands of followers of the sport...None more so than a busload of 30 from Haverfordwest.

Friday, May 22, was their great day — even if it was day when hopes were dashed for many others. They were those who from the start of the year had carefully prepared their novice hunters and watched their progress through the point-to-point ranks to their first big event, the final of *The Times* Championship run over the stiffer fences on a racecourse proper, Towcester.

The 30 who made the 600-mile round trip from Pembrokeshire west to Towcester to support Sea Express, a seven-year-old gelding trained by Bert Lavis and ridden by the leading Welsh point-to-point rider, Philip Mathias.

In 1986 Sea Express had been unruly and so badly behaved that he was nearly banned from racing when stabled in Sussex, but Lavis saw his potential, bought him for Ralph Morgans, and soon had his measure.

After a season's hunting, the first success for Sea Express came in the main event at Tivyside point-to-point and, on his next outing, he qualified for Towcester by winning *The Times* race at the South Pembrokeshire.

On the day, Sea Express behaved impeccably. He jumped into the lead at the first fence, gained ground at every subsequent obstacle and was never headed. Though tiring at the finish, he held on to win by a length and, at the rewarding odds of 7-1, helped fill many a Welsh pocket.

Out in the hunting fields, across the length and breadth of Britain, are many hundreds of young, inexperienced horses whose owners have the ambition of emulating the success of Sea Express...*The Times* Championship is their target, and our sponsorship for the 1988 series will include £2,500 added prize money for the final.

For the next season 28 point-to-point meetings have been scheduled to run qualifiers in *The Times* Championship. It is more than likely that the popularity of the event will again create the need at many of the meetings to be run in two divisions. Consequently, over 100 horses are likely to qualify for the final.

However, with the safety factor limiting the number of runners in the final to 18 it is likely that only winners of the races will be allowed to run as, in any ballot, they have preference over placed horses.

Towcester, centrally located and in the heart of hunting country, has once again been chosen for the venue of the final, which is on May 27.

THE TIMES Point-to-point Championship

THE QUALIFYING RACES

February 27 North Hereford at Newtown
March 5 Duke of Beaufort at Didmarton, Bicester with Whaddon Chase at Mollington, Derwent at Wykeham. 12 Sir W W Wynn's at Eaton Hall. 19 Cambridgeshire at Horseheath, Cottesmore at Garthorpe, Western at Wadebridge, Golden Valley at Bredwardine. 26 Grafton at Mollington, Weston and Banwell at Nedge.
April 2 Monmouthshire at Llanvapley, Morpeth at Tranwell, Vale of Aylesbury at Kimble. 4 East Kent at Aldington, South Pembrokeshire at Lydstep, Vine and Craven at Hackwood Park. 9 Tickham at Detling. 16 Belvoir at Garthorpe, Ledbury at Malsemore Park. 23 Cheshire at Abraham, Pentyrch at Llantwit Major. 30 Lauderdale at Mosshouses, Berks and Bucks at Kingston Blount, Tiverton Stag Hounds at Bratton Down.
May 2 Enfield Chase at Northaw, Zetland at Witton Castle. 7 Devon and Somerset Staghounds at Holnicote.

ATHLETICS: HUTCHINGS AIMING TO BREAK STRANGLEHOLD

Auckland crusade begins at Cardiff

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

There are still some needle matches which retain the aura of good clean fun. The International Athletes' Club cross-country, sponsored by HFC Trust at Cardiff this afternoon, should be one of them, with Tim Hutchings, Britain's best exponent for the last five years, taking on John Ngugi, the world champion, and Paul Kipkeoch, the world 10,000-metres title holder.

The two Kenyans dominated the world championship in Warsaw last March, and Kenya presently has a stranglehold on the sport worldwide. And Ngugi's marginal victory a month after a leg injury caused him to finish 76th in his national championships means that even a recent knee operation should not entirely dismiss him from contention today. But any duel is likely to be between Kipkoech and Hutchings.

Kipkoech has lost two races in Europe recently, and a win for Hutchings would help him in pursuit of his 1984 form, when he finished second in the world championships. The Kenyan team is made up by Andrew Masai and Kipsubai Koskei, who has run 13min 27sec for 5,000m at the age of 40.

With teams from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland too, the race will also serve as a useful prelude to the British cross country trial, at Gateshead on January 30, for the world championships in Auckland in March.

● Prize money will be offered for the first time at the English men's cross-country championships at Newark on February 20. The winning club in the senior race is to receive £2,000.



On the right track: Christie takes up challenge

Willing to be tested any time, any place

Linford Christie, the European 100-metre champion, is the first top British athlete to take up the challenge of the recently published series on drug abuse in *The Times* (Pat Butcher writes). Christie said yesterday that he was "willing to be drug-tested any time, any place, and without prior notice".

The current random testing system, with at least 48-hours' notice given to athletes, came under fire in our drugs exposé. And Christie added that he had already told the British Board that he was willing to tested without warning.

Christie was less happy with some of the other revelations and accusations in the articles, particularly a quote from an anonymous sprint international that being drug free was like going to the starting line in plimsolls while the other seven finalists are in spikes.

Christie's reaction was furious. "I think whatever that guy said is wrong. He's saying that me and all the other guys have got to be on drugs. And it's just not true. I've got where I am through hard work, and hard work alone. That sort of accusation hits and hurts. I'm glad that I'm drug free, and I swear that on my grandmother's grave. And she was the dearest person to me.

"Your articles have really opened my eyes. I feel like the guy in the dunce's cap with a capital D. It's saddening, there's people who are cheating, and getting the benefits. They're killing the sport. At the end of the day, I hope this does some good, and the sponsors don't drop out."

McLeod must watch Cram

Mike McLeod bids for his fourteenth successive Saltwell road race title tomorrow but he knows there is one big barrier in his way — Steve Cram.

McLeod, an Olympic 10,000 metre silver medal winner, has been struggling with a cold but is looking for a repeat of his success over Cram in this race last year. "It would be nice to win again, but Steve will be hard to beat," McLeod said.

Last year Cram stayed with McLeod to the halfway stage of the 10km event before a decisive break sealed McLeod's thirteenth victory. Cram won the first four of his races this winter but has finished runner-up in the last two.

BOXING

Warren going to law over Marsh press allegations

By Andrew Longmore

Frank Warren, the promoter, has confirmed that he will be taking legal action against *The Sun* and *The Sunday Express Magazine* over allegations made by Terry Marsh, the former world light-welterweight champion.

Up to now, Marsh and Warren, who came together six years ago, have kept their squabbling outside the law courts but an incident earlier this week when Marsh turned up to commentate at one of Warren's promotions for the Thames TV programme *Seconds Out* and was forcibly ejected from the show has precipitated the legal moves.

"We decided to go ahead with the action after the incident at Cardiff," Warren said yesterday. "It was the final straw. I don't know what Terry thinks he is doing making such a fool of himself. It's just pure sensationalism and totally ridiculous. I don't need this sort of thing and boxing certainly doesn't."

Marsh, who retired as undefeated world champion three months ago because of epilepsy, had been signed by Warren earlier in the year to commentate on the *Seconds Out* series. But after three of the 12 programmes Warren had warned Marsh that because of the bad blood between them he should not come to any more Warren promotions.

Marsh, however, says he felt he had an obligation to fulfil his contract with Thames because he had not been informed in writing that his contract had been ended. He therefore turned up for the show in Cardiff on Tuesday (dressed as Santa Claus) with a photographer from *The Sun*. A scuffle ensued when the photographer began taking pictures and both he and Marsh were summarily removed.

The incident would be farcical were it not another outstanding example of boxing's uncanny ability to ruin relationships. Admittedly, Warren and Marsh never had the sort of father and son bond enjoyed by McGuigan and Eastwood in their early days, but three months ago they at least had a profitably working partnership. Marsh's retirement, which was announced without Warren's knowledge through the columns of *The Sun*, effectively ended that and it has been all downhill ever since.

Marsh commented: "I have seen a lot of supposedly strong relationships fall apart in boxing so I suppose I almost expected this to happen. The problem was that Frank as a promoter rather than as a manager couldn't accept that I had packed it in."

From Warren: "He now seems to be determined to destroy everything he has built up in boxing and I don't want any part of it."

BASKETBALL

Plenty left to admire at Palace

By Nicholas Harling

The schnitzel and spätzle tasted especially savoury for the players and coaching staff of Bayer Leverkusen in the early hours of yesterday morning. The West Germans not only had good cause to relish the memory of their 111-97 defeat of Polycell Kingston in the quarter-final pool of the European Cup Winners' Cup, they were looking forward to a well-earned Christmas break. Which is bad news for British basketball connoisseurs.

Leverkusen's decision not to defend their title at the world invitation club championship at the tournament beginning at Crystal Palace tomorrow, was the latest blow to the dogged organizer, David Last.

The financial crisis suffered by Last's club, BCP London, has indirectly affected this year's event. A lower-key affair than in the past, it has also been forced to vacate its usual popular new year slot. For without television it cannot hope to compete with the tournament of champions at Leicester on January 1 and 2.

For all that, the three foreign teams who will play are of the calibre to whet any appetite. The University of North Carolina will be remembered for their 1980 visit and the contribution of James Worthy.

If UNC and Yugoplastika, from Split, both justify their seedings, there should at least be a worthy final to fill the gap left by Leverkusen. Nantes complete the overseas line-up.

● Bernie Gallacher, the director of TNT Birmingham, was so incensed by a defeat by BCP London on Wednesday that should Bullets not beat Calderdale — who have won their last 10 games — in tonight's league game, he has promised to refund all spectators with a ticket for a game in the new year. Asked where he could be reached on Monday morning, Gallacher replied: "South America, I should imagine."

RUGBY LEAGUE

St Helens look set for success

By Keith Macklin

Neither Oldham nor St Helens have reached the final of the John Player Special Trophy, though the Saints have figured in several semi-finals and Oldham in one. So both sides are thirsting for success, and the right to meet Leeds in the final, when they clash at Wigan's Central Park this afternoon.

The odds appear to be slightly in favour of St Helens. They will again be without their back-row forward, Arkwright, but have blended into a skilfull attacking force with the arrival at half-back of the New Zealander, Shane Cooper.

Nevertheless, Oldham showed in their quarter-final at Warrington that they are a first division team in all but name. They tackled magnificently and proved that in Round, a discarded St Helens player, and Waddell, they have two strong running forwards, and their three quarter line is efficient, if not spectacular.

It is a pity for Oldham that their international centre, Foy, is suspended, but they have a cunning half-back in Peters.

Sides tend to rise above themselves in cup semi-finals and Oldham will do so at Wigan this afternoon, with Round in particular anxious to prove that the Saints, as Alex Murphy said at the time, were wrong to sell him.

However, the odds must be on the first division side.

Stuart Evans, the Welsh prop is available for St Helens, and Oldham may bring a late surprise by bringing in Naidole on the wing if Robinson is unfit.

● Leigh have issued a hands off warning to Oldham concerning their unsettled scrum half, Mike Ford. The former Wigan player, aged 22, asked Leigh for a transfer and his home town club, Oldham, moved in with a £45,000 offer. But Leigh held out for at least £65,000 and Oldham have not returned with a renewed bid.

TABLE TENNIS

Douglas shakes off shackles

By a Special Correspondent

Desmond Douglas and the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) have settled their dispute and the European top 12 champions' contract will be terminated on December 31. This leaves Douglas free on a day to day employment basis, his aim since the ETTA fined him £833, a month's salary, for boycotting the national top 12 tournament.

The ETTA has however now agreed to pay Douglas the past two month's salary, effectively refunding the fine, although Douglas will now lose about £3,000 annually by being paid on daily units.

"We feel he has suffered enough," said John Prean, the ETTA chairman. "We don't think we were in the wrong. But the whole thing has become silly. Once he gets his act together he'll play better."

Douglas is pleased with the outcome. "I think they realize they have been a bit harsh," he said. "There has been a compromise. I just don't why it didn't happen back in October."

Douglas wanted his freedom on a matter of principle. He believes that the "11-up" scoring system (games played to 11 instead of 21 points to please television), which started the rumpus, is unacceptable.

Happily now the worst effects of the player's sense of betrayal may be reduced. The worst that may happen is that the national champion will not play three major tournaments be involved in promotional appearances.

Douglas may well make up much of the lost income from other sources, while the ETTA should still have his services for internationals and major events. The game has progressed well recently, although it still begs the question why the ETTA took so long to prove its flexibility and stop alienating its most marketable asset.

HOCKEY

Championships to combine

By Sydney Friskin

It seems likely that the next home countries indoor championships, for men and women, will be held concurrently and that Scotland will host the first combined event, probably in Glasgow.

The proposal for the merger has been made by Scotland and all concerned are agreed in principle, although formal approval has to be given by the International Hockey Federation (FIH).

However, the date for the new venture needs clarification. The men's indoor championship, which began at Bell's Sports Centre, Perth, yesterday is an annual event which should have been held next in January 1988, the previous one having taken place in Dublin early this year. However, the Scots brought it forward for administrative reasons and in the normal course of events Wales would have run it in 1989.

Indoor competition among the home countries will intensify when England, Scotland and Wales take part in the HDM tournament from January 15 to 17 at The Hague, when each side will masquerade under an assumed name: England as Lions, Wales as Dragons and Scotland as Capercalzies.

England reached the final of this tournament last January but were beaten 10-5 by the Dutch national side, who have dominated the event for several years. A German team, calling themselves Berliner, has entered for the first time.

Halliday and Hurst will leave the England indoor team at Perth in time to to play for St Albans in their club'spostponed Hockey Association Cup fourth round match against Indian Gymkhana tomorrow at Watford Leisure Centre. Likewise, Jennings will play for Gymkhana.

Daved, Butt and Dhami have rejoined Gymkhana after their recent tour of Kenya with London Indians, but Rehncy and Sonny Soor have not yet returned. The winners will be at home to Southgate, the holders, in the quarter finals on February 21.

YACHTING

Sovereign early leader

From a Special Correspondent, Sydney

The AWA South Cross Cup fleet had a frustrating start to the third race of the international offshore racing series in light headwinds yesterday. After racing up Sydney Harbour from the starting line in an eight-knot north-by-north-east breeze, the fleet ran into a wall of calm on the way north to Cabbage Tree Island in the middle distance race of the series.

From another great start the Honk Kong yacht, Highland Fling, steered by Chris Dickson, was second at North Head, trailing only Sovereign, of the New South Wales team.

Seven hours after the start a fresh southerly change came through, which should give the yachts a fast spinnaker run to Cabbage Tree Island, off Port Stephen, and a 90-mile beat home.

Results from yesterday's three meetings

Lingfield Park

Going: heavy

12.15 (2m 4f ch) 1, DAD'S GAMBLE (F Rowe, 11-10 fav); 2, Barge Pole (H Davies (5-2); 3, Seabeam Talbot (Mr M Armytage, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Oppidan (5th), 8 Pegpond, 12 Salmon Run (4th), Spring Philtre (f), 25 Bara Peg (6th), 33 Coyor (pu), 100 Chais du Fondateur (pu), E Zoe Mou (pu). The Luckpenny Man (pu), 12 ran. 2l, 4l, 4l, 3l, not recorded. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £3.40, £1.90. DF: £5.30. CSF: £10.32.

12.45 (2m 4f ch) 1, RAMBLING SONG (H Davies, 6-1); 2, Mister Christian (P Nicholls, 13-2); 3, Loddon Lad (R Dunwoody, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5-6 fav Direct Approach (pu), 14 Focus On Foster (4th), 20 Golden Mount (f), 25 Aldo King (5th), Mr Kats (f), 33 Tullowagrange (pu), Welsh Consort (pu), 100 Crimson Imp (pu). 11 ran. 12l, 2l, 12l, 10l. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £7.10; £1.70, £1.70, £1.50. DF: £14.60. CSF: £42.71.

1.15 (2m hdle) 1, POPESWOOD (I Shoemark, 50-1); 2, Eske Ness (B de Haan, 16-1); 3, Mistandre (S Sherwood, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Blueberry King, 6 Bold King's Hussar (4th), Ghillie Hills, 8 Bullet Train (f), 12 Rosy Prospect (6th), 16 Border King, 20 Sunday For Monday, Thunderwood, 33 Silent Twirl, 50 Full Spate, Marmite Soldier, One More Knight (5th), Rocky Pit, Sambridge (pu), Smile Again (pu), Cape Manson (bd), Chance Again, Clove Bud. 21 ran. ½l, ¾l, 2l, 3l, 2l. W Wightman at Upham. Tote: £130.10; £16.00, £9.70, £2.20. DF: £1,067.80. CSF: £940.41.

1.45 (2m ch) 1, MR KEY (S Sherwood, 13-8 fav); 2, Tans (A Adams, 5-1); 3, Hiz (H Davies, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Paddyboro, (5th), 6 Akram (5th), 10 Autumn Zuki (4th), 100 Be My Luck (pu), 7 ran. 4l, 10l, 11l, 3l. D Murray-Smith at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £2.80; £1.90, £2.00. DF: £7.10. CSF: £9.76.

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, ROUBAYD (Dale McKeown, 11-2); 2, Final Alma (P Scudamore, 6-1); 3, Fred The Tread (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 4, Prick (I Shoemark, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Sheer Nectar, 13-2 Hamper (6th), 7 Xylophone, 11 Milton Burn, 16 Cuckoo In The Nest, 20 Commayle, Owl Castle, 20 Elbrook, 25 La Shaka, 33 Tarabus (pu), Tribal Drum (5th), 50 Town Jester, H and D Wager, Elegant Bill, Crimson Lady, Silver Cannon. 20 ran. NR: Arabian Blues. sh hd, 5l, 7l, 15l, 1l, R Akehurst at Epsom. Tote: £7.90; £2.20, £1.40, £1.90, £4.00. DF: £12.10. CSF: £39.11. Tricast: £223.50.

2.45 (3m ch) 1, CASPAR CARROT (Mr T Grantham, 10-1); 2, Bright Dreese (R Rowe, 9-2); 3, Clara Mountain (H Davies, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Risk A Bet (5th), 4 Fudge Delight (4th), 10 Momberaon, 12 Charter Party (5th), 14 Mr Peapock. 8 ran. NR: Kass Jass, Nicky's Joy. 1½l, 20l, 10l, 3l, 12l. Miss N Berry at Great Grimsted. Tote: £15.30; £2.10, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £22.00. CSF: £49.17. Tricast: £189.76.

3.15 (2m hdle) 1, EL GALILEO (S Sherwood, 15-8 fav; Michael Seely's mare); 2, Hightown Fantasm (B Powell, 14-1); 3, Kings Folly (G McCourt, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Grey Salute (us), 8 Saryan (4th), 10 Musical Mystery (f), 12 Sea Pennant (5th), 14 Easter Lee (5th), 18 Taff Jones, 25 Sunshine Gal, The Yomper. 11 ran. 2l, 12l, Rd, 4l, nk. O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £3.00; £1.60 £2.10 £2.90. DF: £24.40. CSF: £28.47. Tricast: £203.46.

Placepot: £85.00

Ayr

Going: soft

12.45 (2m hdle) 1, ASTON EXPRESS (M Hammond, 4-9 fav); 2, Burnt Prophet (K Cottier, 16-1); 3, Fell Mist (G Martin, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Brians Hope, 6 Bushido, 10 Pensioner Patch, 14 Corbum, Pais Galore (4th), 20 Gershwin (pu), 33 Bay Minstrel (ur), Border Oak (5th), Haber's Melody, Risk Another, Tactico, Terebinth (6th). 15 ran. NR: Jaidaire. 4l, 1½l, 5l, 2l, 8l. G Moore at Middleham. Tote: £1.40; £1.00, £2.70, £18.00. DF: £10.10. CSF: £12.89.

1.15 (2m 4f) 1, PROUD CON (B Storey, 3-1); 2, Brother Geoffrey (D Wilkinson, 11-4 fav); 3, The Divider (G Lyons, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Hill's Guard (pu), 9-2 Fergy Foster (4th), 20 Snooker Prince (pu), Canmore Outlaw (pu). 7 ran. 4l, dist, ¾l. J Charlton at Stocksfield. Tote: £4.50; £2.80, £1.30. DF: £2.90. CSF: £11.09.

1.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, ARCTIC CALL (G Bradley, 11-8 fav); 2, Arctic Rymes (G Lyons, 50-1); 3, Holplate (N Doughty, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Track Angel, 12 Standon Mill (4th), 20 Summer Meadows (f), 33 Melrose, Our Entertainer (pu), Sandmoor Prince (pu), 50 Jesmond (pu), Velvet Touch (5th), Overton Lass (pu), 100 Soud'n Brig (6th), The Bunco Man (pu), Willy Mac (f), Fire Star (pu), Foxcroft (pu), Siberian Moon, Wednesdays Child. 19 ran. 2½l, 2½l, 8l, 20l, 30l. Mrs M Dickinson at Harewood. Tote: £2.10; £1.80, £32.10, £1.20. DF: £21.40. CSF: £59.32.

2.15 (3m 110yd ch) 1, LA BOEUF (J O'Gorman, 9-1); 2, Prince Metternich (C Dennis, 7-2); 3, Clonrocke Gazette (B Storey, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Dutch Lord (4th), 9-2 Secret Walk (pu), 5 Telegraph Bush (f), 10 Dan o'Or (6th), 12 The Rowlet (5th), 20 Legal Emperor (pu). 9 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 8l, 7l, 8l. D Lamb at Seahouses. Tote: £9.10; £2.90, £1.10, £4.70. DF: £12.10. CSF: £38.68. Tricast: £404.04.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, RANDOLPH PLACE (P Tuck, 4-7 fav; Mandarin's page); 2, Comedy Fair (L Wyer, 9-2); 3, Richards Bay (C Grant, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Salzano (5th), 20 Marlefield (6th), 33 Botham (4th), Killary Bay (f), Tryeghost (ur), 50 Irish Guest (pu), 100 Warleggan. 10 ran. 10l, 20l, 20l, 1½l, 5l. G Richards at Greystoke. Tote: £1.40; £1.30, £1.20, £2.50. DF: £4.10. CSF: £9.98.

3.15 (2m hdle) 1, GODS LAW (P Niven, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Norton Warrior (R Marley, 5-1); 3, Unex-Plained (M Hammond, 7-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Beaker (6th), 11-2 Starwood (5th), 14 Smart In Black, 16 Priceofiove (4th), Martian Baby, Wave Goodbye (pu). 9 ran. 3l, ½l, 20l, 2½l, 8l. Mrs G Revelay at Saltburn. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £1.80, £1.10. DF: £5.50. CSF: £20.20. Tricast: £59.30.

Placepot: £25.00

Fakenham

Going: soft

1.0 (2m ch) 1, VAGUELY ARTISTIC (R Supple, 9-2); 2, Fib (D Morris, 10-1); 3, Henry Geary Steele (T Pinfield, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Northward (pu), 4 The Diplomat (5th), 5 Keycorn (4th), 6 River Rhein (pu). 7 ran. 2½l, 15l, ½l, 3l. G Hubbard at Woodbridge. Tote: £4.00; £1.30, £4.00. DF: £143.40. CSF: £40.98.

1.30 (2m 80yd hdle) 1, PRONUPTIA BRIDE (A Carroll, 5-4 fav); 2, Sweet Rosa (R Crank, 5-1); 3, Low Ration (Miss G Armytage, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Gan On Lad (4th), 6 Hay Street, 8 Mr Savyas, 10 Classic Owen (pu), 12 Two Up, 14 Benny's Eyes (6th), Friendly Bee (pu), 20 In A Nutshell (5th), 25 Tavargos. Heroic Song (pu). 13 ran. NR: Podsnap. 5l, sh hd, 4½l, 7l. D Wintle at Westbury-on-Severn. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £2.60, £3.90. DF: £20.80. CSF: £1401. Tricast: £105.70. Bought in for 1,700gns.

2.0 (3m ch) 1, TROUVERE (A Carroll, 11-8 fav); 2, Highland Cardinal (A Webb, 5-1); 3, Medway Gauntlet (M Brennan, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Celsar (ref), 10 Hallo Matey (ur), Pridden Jimmy (ref), 11 Ump (f), 20 Captain Lowe (4th), Mercy Less (5th). 9 ran. 8l, 25l, 7l, 10l. D Wintle at Westbury-on-Severn. Tote: £3.30; £1.40, £1.90, £1.40. DF: £6.80. CSF: £9.79. Tricast: £49.08.

2.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, MUBBAARIS (S Woods, 11-2); 2, Clarissa (A Carroll, 5-2 fav); 3, Guessaing (T Pinfield, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Ickworth (5th), Nautical Step (4th), 10 Dancing Batterna, 20 Germino (6th), 33 Polar Ice, 50 Dorothy Night (pu), Deekays. 10 ran. NR: Smiling Laurel. 2½l, ¾l, sh hd, ½l, 25l. M Skinner at Snelterton. Tote: £7.80; £2.20 £1.10, £1.80. DF: £27.70. CSF: £20.33. Tricast: £64.13.

3.0 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, SASSANOCO (P Croucher, 5-4 fav); 2, Die In The Sky (D Dutton, 16-1); 3, Vanishing Tanner, (M Brennan, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Aisling Gael (f), 7 Asticot (pu), 20 Guywood (pu). High Trust (f), 25 Deritz (f), 33 Demonic (bd), Silver Leo (4th). 10 ran. NR: Classic Owen, Majestic Ring, 1l, 30l, dist. K C Bailey at East Ilsley. Tote: £2.10; £1.20, £2.80, £1.70. DF: £9.30. CSF: £21.64.

3.30 (2m 80yd hdle) 1, CREEAGER (S J O'Neill, 5-2 fav); 2, San Carlos (S Keightley, 5-1); 3, Man O'Night (P Croucher, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Rix Woodcock (4th), 13-2 Master Vince, Kasu (5th), 7 Noble Rise (pu), 20 Dofi (6th), Tyrannise. 9 ran. 1½l, 4l, 4l, 12l, 5l. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. Tote: £4.00; £1.50, £2.40, £2.30. DF: £10.90. CSF: £16.36. Tricast: £46.01.

Placepot: £51.00

Proud Con enjoys Ayr

Proud Con, well supported from 4-1 to 3-1, enhanced his Scottish National claims with a four-length victory from Brother Geoffrey in the Drumjohn Handicap Chase at Ayr yesterday.

His delighted trainer, Alistair Charlton, said: "He will stay forever and really loves the Ayr course." Charlton used to partner King Con in his point-to-point races and won twice on him, but it was in 1978, after he had left the stable, that King Con collected the Scottish National.

Boxing Day with The Times

The Times will be publishing on Boxing Day this year. There will be complete up-to-date cards for all eight race meetings on Boxing Day and a full guide to the football and rugby that day. As well as a full Saturday section with all the regular contributors, there will be a Jumbo Crossword, a Christmas Quiz, complete weekend television and radio and entertainment listings.

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RACING: MURRAY-SMITH'S COURSE WINNER LOOKS LENIENTLY HANDICAPPED TO COLLECT ANOTHER VALUABLE PRIZE AT ASCOT

Fine chance for Church Warden

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Church Warden, from David Murray-Smith's in-form Lambourn stable, is my selection to win the valuable SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot today.

The fact that he hasn't had an outing this season should not deter anyone from backing him because he has won first time out twice in the past three years. He also goes best when fresh.

Last season, Church Warden also made his debut at Ascot. On that occasion he captured the coveted H & T Walker Goddess Chase over 2½ miles by beating Berlin, Amber Rambler, Desert Orchid and Charcoal Wally. That looks rock-solid form.

Ability to cope with today's longer distance was forthcoming the season before when he accounted for Artic Stream and Strands Of Gold.

So, at his best, I make Church Warden well handicapped today with only 10st 2lb.

Last year, Bucko started *favourite for the corresponding* race only to let his supporters down when he fell heavily at the eighth fence.

His trainer Jimmy Fitzgerald has decided to run him again, this time wearing blinkers for the first time in the hope that they will help him to concentrate better after that lacklustre run behind Sun Rising and Course Hunter over the same course and distance last month.

As he might have been remembering that crashing fall last year, caution could well be the best counsel now.

In the circumstances, Gainsay and Against The Grain may turn out to be Church Warden's most formidable opponents.

Gainsay beat all but the rejuvenated Rhyme 'N' Reason at Lingfield a week ago while Against The Grain was far from disgraced at Sandown last time even though he finished last of three behind Foyle Fisherman and Yahoo.

Long Engagement, who accounted for Desert Orchid at the same meeting, albeit at a difference of 26lb, will be attempting to register his third win at Ascot this season when he contests the Frogmore Handicap Chase.

On paper, he should not beat Panto Prince now that he meets him on 19lb worse terms than when they last clashed here in October. On that occasion only half a length separated them.

Sabin Du Loir should win the Youngmans Long Walk Hurdle now that Martin Pipe appears to have got him right again but stable companion Convinced will need to be all that he is cracked up to be if he is to give weight to Saffron Lord, Nos Na Gaoithe and Osric in the HSS Hire Shops hurdle.

Using Southenair as a yardstick, there is an argument which says that Osric has the best chance carrying 10st 8lb, and he is my selection.

The Processor (3.0), who did this column a decent turn at Worcester 12 days ago when winning by six lengths, can continue the good work by capturing the Hampton Court Handicap Hurdle for amateur riders.

Stable companions Gurteen Wood (2.0) and Cockpit Crew (3.0) can give trainer Oliver Sherwood further cause for celebrations by landing a double at Nottingham where they will be ridden by his brother, Simon.

Like all the horses in the yard, *Gurteen Wood was* backward when he made his debut at Newbury midway through last month. Now that this very promising ex-Irish seven-year-old is considered to be cherry ripe, he looks nap material in the Mansfield Novices' chase.

Cockpit Crew would have finished second to the talented Swingit Gunner at Sandown a fortnight ago had he not fallen at the last hurdle. He is worth another chance in the Coral Golden Hurdle qualifier.

At Ayr, the 1986 Scottish National winner Hardy Lad will be trying to improve his record there by winning the Melleray's Belle Challenge Cup a second successive time.

Twelve months ago, he beat Peaty Sandy by 2½ lengths. On this occasion Helen Hamilton's hardy annual, who has an even better record on the track with six course victories to his credit, looks poised to gain his revenge



Church Warden, who is fancied for today's SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot

Mullins to dominate at Navan

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

With the overnight defection of Aonoch, the Kilkenny trainer Paddy Mullins appears to dominate today's 2m 5f Lismullen Amateur Hurdle at Navan, providing two of the top weights Cloughtaney and Derrymore Boy.

Tom Mullins rides Cloughtaney for whom this will be his first start since pulling up at Cheltenham in March, while elder brother Willie will be aboard Derrymore Boy.

Prior to Cheltenham, Cloughtaney had won two useful novice hurdle races including the successful concession of 17lb to Bronssard.

Mullins believes Cloughtaney will prove to be one of his star performers this season but at this point in his preparation he can hardly match up to Derrymore Boy, who defeated Corporal Clinger in the IR£50,000 Sean Graham Memorial Hurdle at Leopardstown a year ago.

The danger to the Mullins pair may be Fane Ranger, who won this race in 1982 and again the following season.

Clonogue will have a change of jockey in the Santa Clause Handicap Chase with Charlie Swan taking over from the amateur Michael McNulty, who was unseated at the second last fence when the combination looked likely to land the Troytown Handicap Chase.

Veteran Wightman springs a 50-1 Lingfield surprise

Long-serving trainer Bill Wightman, who may give his Pat Eddery-ridden Lincoln hope Single an outing over hurdles soon, provided a 50-1 surprise with Popeswood in the EBF Novices' Hurdle Qualifier at Lingfield Park yesterday.

Wightman, aged 73, and a trainer for more than 50 years, chuckled: "I think that's the first time I've ever had a winner returned at 50-1.

"Popeswood cannot go fast enough to keep up with the others on good ground, but these testing conditions are right up his street. He's only small and that's the reason I claimed 7lb off him by using Ian Shoemark."

Wightman will make a decision with Single's other three owners after Christmas as to whether they should give the much-improved miler a spin over hurdles in preparation for the William Hill race at Doncaster.

Mr Key gave Upper Lambourn trainer David Murray-Smith his 13th winner — one better than his previous score in a season — when justifying odds of 13-8 in the Croydon Advertiser Group Handicap Chase.

Rambling Song, bred by Grand National winning rider and Jockey Club member Dick Saunders, gave a superb exhibition of jumping to win the second division of the Christmas Cracker Novices' Chase.

Rambling Song is built like a true old fashioned three-mile chaser, but the gelding has given trainer Tim Forster a few headaches. "In all my years training I've never had a horse who has suffered so much from sore shins. He is a cripple for much of the time, and no doubt, will be again after this race," he said.

Although hating the muddy ground, Dad's Gamble landed some hefty wagers from 13-8 to 11-10 favourite after leading for much of the final circuit of the first division of the novices's chase.

Josh Gifford's promising youngster made several hair-raising jumping errors, but, having fought off the challenge of Barge Pole over the final three fences, went on to win by two lengths.

● Robbie Supple rode his second winner since coming over from Ireland in October to join permit holder Geoffrey Hubbard's Woodbridge stable when scoring on Vaguely Artistic in the Velvoir Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Chase at Fakenham..

County Kerry-born Supple rode his first winner in this country on 25-1 chance On The Twist at Leicester last month — the only other winner Hubbard has had this season. "We really haven't started seriously. It's after Christmas that I shall be looking for winners," the trainer said.

ASCOT

Selections

By Mandarin

12.15 Bonanza Boy. 12.50 Osric. 1.20 Sabin Du Loir. | 1.55 Church Warden. 2.30 Panto Prince. 3.00 The Processor.

By Michael Seely

1.20 SABIN DU LOIR (nap). 2.30 Long Engagement. 3.00 The Processor.

Going: good to soft

12.15 PETER COX NOVICES CHASE (£5,920: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

102	41-F111	SPRINGHOLM 22 (G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 5-11-9	R Dunwoody	80
103	2210-11	BALLYHANE 14 (G,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 6-11-8	R Rowe	98
104	1110-11	BONANZA BOY 51 (D,F,G,S) (S Dunstar) P Hobbs 6-11-8	P Hobbs	97
105	020/0B1	IL CASTAGNO 23 (G,S) (G Wragg) D Williams 7-11-1	C Mann	70
106	2U-4F12	LOR MOSS 14 (D,F,S) (A Leighton) A Leighton 7-11-1	M Price	● 99
108	0P4-343	AMRULLAH 14 (T Thorn) J Bridger 7-10-12	G Moore	94
109	B	BYNACONDRA 38 (Abbey Car Salvage Ltd) W Kemp 6-10-12	R Beggan	—

BETTING: 7-4 Bonanza Boy, 11-4 Springholm, 7-2 Ballyhane, 6-1 Lor Moss, 10-1 Amrullah, 20-1 Il Castagno, 50-1 Byncondra.

1986: CAVVIES CLOWN 6-10-12 R Arnott (11-2) D Elsworth 5 ran

FORM SPRINGHOLM (10-4) beat Mr Key (11-10), a winner twice since, 10l at Newbury (2m 180yd, £3648, good, Nov 27, 8 ran). BALLYHANE (11-2) jumped well when beating Sassanoco (10-12) 4l at Sandown (2m 189yd, £4440, good, Dec 5, 8 ran) with AMRULLAH (10-12) 4l 3rd. BONANZA BOY (11-5), a former top-class staying novice hurdler, easily beat Let Him By (11-4) 10l at Wincanton (2m 5f, £1904, good, Oct 29, 18 ran).

IL CASTAGNO (11-0) a well beaten 3rd when left in lead at the last fence at Haydock (3m, £2880, soft, Nov 26, 5 ran), beating Gillogue Lough (10-9) 20l.

LOR MOSS (11-5) best judged on reappearance effort at Newbury (2m 4f, £3830, good, Oct 23, 10 ran) when 12½l 4th to Gale's Image (11-10).

Selection: LOR MOSS

12.50 HSS HIRE SHOPS HURDLE (£5,253: 2m) (7 runners) BBC 1

201	111-P	CONVINCED 26 (D,BF,S) (S Shrubsall) M Pipe 5-11-8	P Scudamore		63
203	300-334	GHOFAR 14 (D,G) (Sir H Dundas) D Elsworth 4-11-4	C Brown		88
204	32F01-1	SAFFRON LORD 42 (F,G,S,D) (J Holmes) J Gifford 5-11-4	R Rowe		97
205	2F1-321	NOS NA GAOITHE 28 (V,D,S) (P Green) M H Easterby 4-10-11	L Wyer		94
209	100-322	OSRIC 11 (BF,S) (R Scott) M Ryan 4-10-8	G McCourt		● 99
210	1	ZAGAZIG 21 (D,S) (J Livock) N Callaghan 4-10-8	R Dunwoody		92
211	1220-34	BRIDE 21 (D,S) (J Clark) P Butler 4-10-3	M Furlong		61

BETTING: 9-4 Osric, 11-4 Nos Na Gaoithe, 4-1 Saffron Lord, 11-2 Convinced, 8-1 Ghofar, 16-1 Zagazig, 25-1 Bride.

1986: NOHALIMDUN 5-11-4 P Scudamore (13-8) M H Easterby 5 ran

FORM NOS NA GAOITHE (10-10) beat Southernair (12-0) 3l at Leicester (2m, £2519, heavy, Nov 23, 6 ran) with disappointing Champion Hurdle fancy CONVINCED (11-7) pulled up.

CONVINCED (11-0) better judged on a 3l win over Hill's Pageant (11-0) at Liverpool (2m, £6354, soft, Apr 2, 14 ran).

SAFFRON LORD (11-0) ran usual game race to beat Timely Star (11-0) 2½l at Chepstow (2m 4f, £3921, good to soft, Nov 7, 9 ran).

OSRIC (11-0) a creditable 2½l 2nd to Celtic Chief (11-0) at Newbury (2m 100yd, £6740, good, Nov 28, 9 ran) on penultimate start with GHOFAR (11-3), who was going well before being hampered behind Celtic Shot next time, 1½l 3rd.

ZAGAZIG (11-0) easy 16l winner from Lightwater Again (11-0) in a Market Rasen novice (2m, £1459, soft, Nov 28, 17 ran).

Selection: OSRIC

1.20 YOUNGMANS LONG WALK HURDLE (Grade II: £8,289: 3m 2f) (10 runners) BBC 1

301	02P/1P-1	SABIN DU LOIR 29 (C,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 8-11-8	P Scudamore		● 99
302	2-1F2F0	MRS MUCK 7 (C,G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-3	P Hobbs		97
305	14-1143	STAGHOUND 23 (F,S) (Mrs C Meadows) J Gifford 5-10-11	R Rowe		74
306	304102-	BLUFF COVE 248 (F,G,S) (Dickins Ltd) R Hollinshead 5-10-8	R Dunwoody		85
307	13/010	BOGAZKOY 29 (BF,D,S) (S M Donaldson Kent Ltd) W Kemp 5-10-8	R Beggan		65
308	08	DANCING BARRON 23 (E Gadsden) L Cottrell 6-10-8	B Powell		—
309	30/0P0-0	KRISTENSON 23 (CD,F,G,S) (J Coward) R Fisher 10-10-8	S Smith Eccles		89
310	10	THEODAS 25 (S) (J Boswell) L Cottrell 5-10-8	R Millman		60
311	00-0040	VON TRAPPE 35 (F,G,S) (P Bancroft) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-8	B de Haan		84
312	2F1142	MISS NERO 14 (F,S) (R Yates) R Lee 6-10-3	B Dowling		98

BETTING: 6-4 Sabin du Loir, 4-1 Miss Nero, 11-2 Mrs Muck, 8-1 Bluff Cove, 9-1 Von Trappe, 12-1 Staghound, 16-1 Kristenson, 25-1 Bogazkoy, Theodas, 50-1 Dancing Barron.

1986: OUT OF THE GLOOM 5-10-8 P Scudamore (4-1) R Hollinshead 5 ran

FORM SABIN DU LOIR dominated race from front on reappearance here (2m 4f, £13696, good to soft, Nov 20, 7 ran) when (10-11) beating Sprowston Boy (10-11) 12l.

MRS MUCK (11-6) 18½l 6th to Pat's Jester (11-2) at Cheltenham (2m, £9684, good, Dec 12, 8 ran), was last seen at best in Welsh Champion Hurdle (2m, £7362, good to soft, Apr 20, 9 ran) when (11-5) 4l 2nd to High Knowl (11-0).

BLUFF COVE (10-4) running on 2l 2nd to Mandavi (11-2) in 3m handicap here (£5306, good, Apr 15, 17 ran).

MISS NERO, improving sort, (11-10) 2l 2nd to Motivator (11-4) in Chepstow handicap (3m, £2617, soft, Dec 5, 15 ran).

Earlier MISS NERO (11-5) beat Merry Jane (12-0) 4l at Cheltenham (3m 1f, h'cap, £2826, good to soft, Oct 21, 19 ran), with VON TRAPPE (11-12) 6l 4th.

Selection: SABIN DU LOIR

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
M H Easterby	7	17	41.2
J Webber	4	14	28.6
R Hodges	4	19	21.1
M Pipe	4	19	21.1
D Elsworth	9	49	18.4
J Edwards	5	31	16.1

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Peter Hobbs	3	15	20.0
S Smith Eccles	9	46	19.6
P Scudamore	12	71	16.9

Only qualifiers

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 0-0432 TIMESFORM 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ——— B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

1.55 SGB HANDICAP CHASE (£14,984: 3m) (12 runners) BBC 1

401	442-030	WEST TIP 21 (D,F,G,S) (P Luff) M Oliver 10-11-10	E Buckley (4)		92
402	110-0P2	GAINSAY 7 (B,D,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-3	B de Haan		94
403	241-233	AGAINST THE GRAIN 14 (D,G,S) (J Mawle) D Nicholson 6-10-12	R Dunwoody		89
404	31F2-40	CAVVIES CLOWN 35 (C,G,S) (Mrs J Ollivant) D Elsworth 7-10-11	R Arnott		80
405	F20-313	BUCKO 28 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs P MacCann) Jimmy Fitzgerald 10-10-7	R Beggan		92
406	204-333	CASTLE WARDEN 28 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (M Shone) J Edwards 10-10-7	Mr M Richards (4)		96
407	31P/310-	CHIEF IRONSIDE 256 (G) (H Joel) J Gifford 7-10-4	R Rowe		97
408	1321-24	GOLD BEARER 22 (G,S) (Lady Joseph) F Winter 7-10-3	P Scudamore		92
409	212/01-3	STRATH LEADER 17 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Fairbairn) J Edwards 9-10-3	T Morgan		● 99
410	FP/1P00-	CHURCH WARDEN 243 (CD,F,G,S) (J Moreton) D Murray-Smith 8-10-2	P Croucher		91
411	F11P-00	CLAUDE MONET 17 (D,S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 9-10-0	S Smith Eccles		80
412	1P0/F0-0	CONCLUSIVE 4 (F) (R Shaw) Miss E Sneyd 8-10-0	D Gallagher (4)		—

BETTING: 4-1 Bucko, 9-2 Against The Grain, 11-2 Church Warden, 6-1 Chief Ironside, 13-2 Strath Leader, 15-2 Gainsay, 9-1 Gold Bearer, 10-1 Castle Warden, 14-1 Cavvies Clown, 20-1 West Tip, 33-1 Claude Monet, 250-1 Conclusive.

1986: DOOR LATCH 8-11-1 R Rowe (8-1) J Gifford 12 ran

FORM GAINSAY (11-2) 5l 2nd to Rhyme'N'Reason (10-1) at Lingfield (3m, £10470, good to soft, Dec 12, 6 ran).

AGAINST THE GRAIN (11-10) 2¾l 3rd to Foyle Fisherman (11-1) at Sandown (3m 118yd, £4644, good, Dec 5, 3 ran).

BUCKO (12-0) 2l and a short head 3rd to Sun Rising (11-9) over this course and distance (£7154, good to soft, Nov 21, 7 ran).

CASTLE WARDEN (10-12) best judged on a 1¾l 3rd to Sun Rising (10-0) here (3m, £6932, good, Oct 28, 5 ran) with WEST TIP (12-0) a well beaten 5th.

CHIEF IRONSIDE (10-1) last successful when beating Bishop's Yarn (10-2) 3l at Sandown (2m 4f 168yd, £7688, good, Feb 7, 3 ran).

STRATH LEADER (11-10) best judged on a 6l defeat of Fortina's Express (10-0) at Liverpool (2m 6f, £9546, soft, Apr 2, 15 ran).

Selection: STRATH LEADER

2.30 FROGMORE HANDICAP CHASE (£7,466: 2m) (9 runners)

501	2240-F2	TOWNLEY STONE 18 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Townley) J Webber 8-11-10	G McCourt		97
502	3-41311	LONG ENGAGEMENT 14 (CD,G,S) (B Gregory) D Nicholson 5-11-4 (5ex)	R Dunwoody		98
503	111-122	PANTO PRINCE 21 (D,G,S) (Mrs L Warman) C Popham 6-10-12	B Powell		● 99
504	20-23F1	KARENMORE 14 (D,G,S) (Lt Col R Warden) M H Easterby 9-10-12 (3ex)	L Wyer		91
506	11-0122	BALUCHI 25 (D,F,G,S) (D Squire) B Preece 6-10-3	P Scudamore		91
507	P-40P34	FAR BRIDGE 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 11-10-3	S Smith Eccles		97
508	11-420U	CLAY HILL 7 (D,F,S) (G Hubbard) J Gifford 8-10-2	R Rowe		98
509	0P0-113	WARNER FOR LEISURE 22 (CD,F,G,S) (T Warner Sports) P Hobbs 9-10-0	P Hobbs		91
512	3-0P044	ST WILLIAM 21 (CD,F,G,S) (W Morecombe) R Hodges 10-10-0	M Perrett		77

BETTING: 3-1 Long Engagement, 4-1 Panto Prince, 9-2 Clay Hill, 11-2 Baluchi, 7-1 Karenomore, 15-2 Far Bridge, 12-1 Warner For Leisure, 14-1 Townley Stone, 33-1 St William.

1986: DESERT ORCHID 7-11-5 C Brown (7-2 jt-fav) D Elsworth 8 ran

FORM TOWNLEY STONE (11-1) 8l 2nd to Very Promising (11-8) at Huntingdon (2m 4f, £5729, good to soft, Dec 1, 3 ran).

LONG ENGAGEMENT (10-2) beat Desert Orchid (12-0) 3l at Sandown (2m 118yd, £8795, good, Dec 5, 5 ran) with FAR BRIDGE (10-4) 28l 4th.

PANTO PRINCE (11-10) 2½l 2nd to Cottage Run (10-10) at Newbury (2m 150yd, £3557, good, Nov 28, 5 ran) with ST WILLIAM (10-3) beaten 22½l 4th.

Earlier PANTO PRINCE (11-9) beat CLAY HILL (11-5) 1½l at Kempton (2m, £3080, good to soft, Oct 17, 4 ran).

KARENOMORE (11-10) beat Kevinsfort (10-10) 3l at Wetherby (2m 50yd, £2221, good to soft, Dec 5, 3 ran).

BALUCHI (12-1) a length 2nd to Rambling Wild (10-1) at Windsor (2m 40yd, £1670, good to soft, Nov 23, 6 ran).

WARNER FOR LEISURE (10-13) 4½l 3rd to Pegwell Bay (10-12) at Newbury (2m 4f, £2324, good, Nov 27, 7 ran).

Selection: CLAY HILL

3.0 HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateurs: £3,111: 2m 4f) (23 runners)

602	0-13414	FOURTH TUDOR 7 (B,D,F,G,S) (T Ramsden) A Bailey 5-11-13	Miss S Murgatroyd (7)		91
604	3/0000-4	MY DOMINION 31 (C,F,G,S) (T Ramsden) R Simpson 5-11-10	Miss B Cullen-Gilford (7)		85
606	141-004	BATON MATCH 31 (F,G,S) (Communidata Ltd) J Edwards 7-11-7	M Richards		92
609	23F34/3	DEEP IMPRESSION 44 (G,S) (N Mills) N Gaselee 8-11-5	Miss S Lawrence (7)		85
610	20-4211	THE PROCESSOR 12 (G,S) (J Hurst) O Sherwood 6-11-3	D Bennewyorth (7)		● 99
612	01P0P-0	MR PARKER 18 (C,F) (G Hubbard) J Gifford 5-10-13	T Grantham		88
613	411002	BLASKET RUN 12 (S) (R Yates) R Lee 4-10-12	Mrs C Lee (7)		95
614	20-0360	WELSH OAK 15 (F,G,S) (G Amey) D Gandolfo 7-10-9	Miss G Armytage		84
615	2230-03	NOME TOO DEAR 21 (BF,G) (S Adams) G Balding 5-10-9	G Oxley (7)		95
616	00/2020	MR GREGORY 29 (S) (A Leiper) G Balding 8-10-9	C Hawkins (7)		91
617	303020-	TAXIADS 204 (S) (Mrs P Marzouk) R Curtis 5-10-8	—		82
618	11031P	FRANGNITO 28 (F,S) (R Cornwell) G Balding 4-10-7	J Cornwell (7)		90
619	0031/0P	BASKET WEAVE 36 (D,G) (J Sayers) G Balding 8-10-5	S Foster (7)		—
621	0/034P3-	BALLYCRACKERS 211 (S) (D Yearsley) D Williams 6-10-3	D Yearsley (7)		83
623	430P00	RHODE ISLAND RED 14 (F,S) (J Bruton) A Moore 4-10-2	P Verling (5)		77
624	4484-39	BLACK SHEEP 28 (G) (A Wilson) R Armytage 10-10-0	Miss S Wilson (7)		73
627	240-006	THAMES TRADER 40 (S) (Mrs J Seal) Mrs L Clay 6-10-0	Miss A Harwood (7)		82
628	4PFR00	PRINCE MOON 12 (F,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 7-10-0	A Forte		81
630	0/KP0RU-	SOUTHERN HERMIT 292 (Mrs A Barker) B Barker 7-10-0	—		—
631	000	HOT TRAMP 53 (F,G,S) (J Bridger) J Bridger 13-10-0	Miss R Bridger (7)		—
632	00PFPP/	SCALDARA 584 (Mrs G Bavington) H O'Neill 7-10-0	—		—
633	000P00-	DOUBLE SWING 224 (S) (J Harriman) J Harriman 6-10-0	C Harriman (7)		—
634	28000/	THUMPS 1342 (S) (J Dalton) J Dalton 11-10-0	A Dalton (7)		—

BETTING: 11-4 The Processor, 5-1 Blasket Run, 6-1 Deep Impression, 15-2 None Too Dear, 8-1 Baton Match, 10-1 Fourth Tudor, 12-1 My Dominion, 14-1 Frangnito, Welsh Oak, 16-1 Mr Gregory, 20-1 others.

1986: MOLOJEC 5-9-11 Miss S Murgatroyd (16-1) A Bailey 23 ran

FORM FOURTH TUDOR (10-12) 8l 4th to Guisborough Town (10-2) at Doncaster (2m 4f, 24240, good to firm, Dec 12, 8 ran).

Earlier FOURTH TUDOR (11-3) beat Isaac Newton (10-4) a neck in Ladies race at Huntingdon (2m 4f, £3209, good to soft, Dec 1, 14 ran), with MR PARKER (10-13) 14l 5th and RHODE ISLAND RED (10-2) 8th.

DEEP IMPRESSION (10-9) made bad mistake at last when 45l 3rd to Comendante (10-9) on reappearance at Kempton (2m 4l, £2717, good, Nov 5, 11 ran).

THE PROCESSOR had something in hand when (11-3) beating Our White Hart (10-11) 6l at Worcester (2m, £1543, good, Dec 7, 16 ran), with PRINCE MOON (10-4) 11th.

BLASKET RUN (11-10) 2l 2nd to Golden Fox (10-7) at Worcester (2m 4f, £1139, good, Dec 7, 24 ran).

Selection: THE PROCESSOR

NOTTINGHAM

Selections

By Mandarin

12.30 Beldale Star. 1.0 Postdyne. 1.30 Another Seeker. 2.0 GURTEEN WOOD (nap). 2.30 Coughlans Run. 3.0 Cockpit Crew.

Going: good to soft (chase course); soft (hurdles)

12.30 TOLLERTON NOVICES HURDLE (£937: 2m) (23 runners)

2	012	CUMUTE 15 (S) E Eldin 4-11-3	J McLaughlin		
5	0-01	PEARLY GLEN 31 (D,S) F Winter 7-11-3	V Kennedy (7)		
8	6-0	AFFIRMATIVE 45 J Old 5-10-10	S McNeill		
11		BELDALE STAR M Pipe 4-10-10	J Lower		
13	3-2	CHIEF BUCKANEER 14 Mrs M Rimell 5-10-10	D Browne		
14		DEEP SURPRISE C Tristine 4-10-10	J D Doyle		
16	04-0	FIRST BILL 21 D Nicholson 4-10-10	—		
19	00-	GARTHMAN 380 P Felgate 4-10-10	S Johnson		
20	0	KENSINGTON 21 G Balding 5-10-10	G Bradley		
21	0	LE MOULIN 274 Mrs J Pitman 4-10-10	M Pitman		
23	0-00	MR BONES 28 G Anderson 4-10-10	S Sherwood		
25	00/P	PARTARUS 57 Mrs A Hewitt 6-10-10	P Warner		
28	6-0	PROPLUS 23 J Edwards 5-10-10	H Davies		
29	200-	ROSIE'S MEMBER 288 Mrs C Postlethwaite 6-10-10	—		
30	0302	SAGART AROON 14 O Brennan 7-10-10	M Brennan		
32	0	STEGSMAN 36 J Blundell 5-10-10	—		
33	04-0	STEPAULI 25 Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-10-10	J J Quinn		
35	0P/0	THE GREY FERGY 22 M Dickinson 5-10-10	—		
37	4	WARRIORS CODE 280 D Todd 4-10-10	A J Quinn (7)		
39		BUCKBY FOLLY M Camacho 5-10-5	L Harvey		
40		C B L GIRL J Mulhall 5-10-5	T P White (7)		
41	0P	HARGATE LADY 16 N A Smith 4-10-5	Mr M Wellings		
45	0-P0	SOLNAGER 35 (B) R Hartop 6-10-5	J Barlow		

3-1 Cumute, 7-2 Beldale Star, 9-2 First Bill, 11-2 Chief Buckaneer, 8-1 Mr Bones, Pearly Glen, 12-1 others.

1.0 COLWICK CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,987: 2m) (8)

1	F23-	ALDRO 247 (CD,G,S) W Clay 11-12-3	Diane Clay		
2	2P-P	MONSTOP 37 (S,D,F) P O'Connor 8-11-2	D Tegg		
3	4030	OMPANY 12 (D,F,S) R Robinson 8-11-2	T P White		
5	4-10	CRADLE OF JAZZ 16 (F,G,S) J Old 7-10-7	C Llewellyn		
6	0F01	BERMUDA'S GLEN 8 (F,S) J Blundell 9-10-3 (5ex)	W Hawkins (7)		
7	-032	POSTDYNE 32 (D,G,S) W Mann 12-10-0	W Humphreys		
8	0-0P	BRAHMS AND LISZT 30 (F,S) J Parish 11-10-0	M Sharratt		
9	P0PF	PAUPERS SON 14 (B,S) R O'Leary 10-10-0	N Roche		

3-1 Cradle Of Jazz, 4-1 Bermuda's Glen, 5-1 Nonstop.

1.30 TOLLERTON NOVICES HURDLE (£904: 2m) (21)

1	-011	ANOTHER SEEKER 7 (D,F,G,S) F Winter 5-11-10	V Kennedy (7)		
2	-2F1	HOPE DIAMOND 26 (D,S) N Gaselee 4-11-3	J White		
5	00-	BIRDTOWN 243 M Skinner 4-10-10	S Woods (5)		
6	0004	BOLD ANSWER 47 W Clay 4-10-10	Diane Clay (7)		
10	40	CHASE THE LINE 16 D Nicholson 4-10-10	W Humphreys (7)		
11		CHESHIRE HOUSE Mrs A Hewitt 6-10-10	P Warner		
15	4	DEEP MOMENT 471 Mrs M Rimell 5-10-10	D Browne		
16		ELBURY PARK J Parish 4-10-10	—		
17	0P40	EL CAPISTRANO 16 B Llewellyn 6-10-10	—		
19	0	GORMAN CASTLE 15 Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-10-10	J J Quinn		
22	11F	MOLE BOARD 23 (F,S) O O'Neill 5-10-10	S Cowley		
23	2-04	PEMBROKE BAY 14 Mrs J Pitman 4-10-10	Mr M Pitman		
27	020	RED IN THE MORNING 15 H Wharton 4-10-10	B Walsh (4)		
28	30-2	SAPPERTON 28 O Sherwood 4-10-10	S Sherwood		
29	0	SILK THREAD 35 J Boothman 4-10-10	Dale McKeown (4)		
30	00	SPRINGFIELD RIFLE 25 M Dickinson 4-10-10	—		
34	P-0	ERMADRIL 71 C Tinkler 7-10-5	J D Doyle		
35	00-P	FINE KATE 22 A J Wilson 4-10-5	H Davies		
36		GREENHILLS JOY M Ryan 4-10-5	J Mclaughlin		
38		SEPTEMBER WILLOW B McMath 6-10-5	T Wooley (7)		
39	/2-0	TANTE MARIE 66 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-5	—		

Evens Another Seeker, 3-1 Sapperton, 5-1 Hope Diamond, 11-10 Cone Alone, 8-2 South Sunrise, 5-1 Kokoschka, 8-1 Snow Babu, 14-1 Belinglance, In Contention, 16-1 others.

BANGOR

Selections

By Mandarin

12.30 Panienka. 1.0 Richard Lionheart. 1.30 Cone Alone. 2.0 Masterplan. 2.30 General Breyfax. 3.0 Caffieri.

Going: soft (heavy patches before water jump)

12.30 MATES GORSE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £697: 2m 80yd) (11 runners)

1	2201	PRINCESS SEMELE 22 (F,S) M Pipe 11-11	Mr R Bellamy (7)		
3	1	GOLDEN DISPLAY 12 (G) B Curley 11-4	D Murphy		
5	1	PANIENKA 33 (G) E Owen jun 10-13	D J Burchell (7)		
8	400	DIVINE CHARGER 22 Mrs M Rimell 10-12	A Sharpe		
9	0	EASTEND BLAKE 30 M Chapman 10-12	S Mitchell (7)		
10	0F	GOLDEN CAJUN 21 N Gaselee 10-12	A Adams (7)		
11		GOOD CAUSE Miss S Wilson 10-12	S Davies (7)		
15		IMPERIOUS KNAVE D Moffatt 10-12	K Teelan		
21	04	ORIENTAL JADE 57 G Roe 10-12	P McDermott (7)		
26	0	CAWSTONS PREJUDICE 57 B McMahon 10-7	T Wall		
27	0	CHANTILLY LACE 22 Mrs A Knight 10-7	George Knight		

5-4 Golden Display, 15-8 Princess Semele, 9-2 Panienka.

1.0 ROYALTY NOVICES CHASE (£1,534: 2m) (4)

2	P014	HARLEY STREET MAN 25 (F,G) C Jackson 5-11-6	R Hyett		
3	0F01	RICHARD LIONHEART 15 (C,S) R Peacock 7-11-6	S J O'Neill		
6	333R	RUSTY ROC 49 (S) M Davies 6-11-0	W Knex		
10	/F-P	RHYMAROUND 26 (S) D McCain 5-10-9	K Doolan		

8-13 Harley Street Man, 3-1 Richard Lionheart, 9-2 Rusty Roc, 12-1 Rhymaround.

1.30 MAESFEN NOVICES HURDLE (£891: 2m 4f 20yd) (18)

2	420-1	CONE AL

RUGBY UNION: WEEKEND GAMES WILL BE LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR DIVISIONAL PLAYERS TO IMPRESS COOKE AND HIS AIDES

Harrison will lead North's chance to clinch the title

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

It will be a heavy weekend for Geoff Cooke, England's team manager, and his various aides. They will spend it sifting through the evidence thrown up by the Toshiba divisional championship and, on Monday, Cooke will emerge with two sides for England's trial at Twickenham on January 2; ideally there will be little change between those two teams and the XVs who will represent England at A and B level against France on January 16.

We do not live, alas, in an ideal world. Without wishing to be unduly negative, the divisional championship has been informative about players who are unlikely to make the step from club to international rugby, without necessarily confirming too many positive views.

Nevertheless there is one more round to go, and if the North come with as attractive a rush as they did against London last season, they will clinch the divisional title for the second successive year. They received a boost to their morale yesterday when Harrison, their captain, declared himself recovered from a groin strain while, at the same time, their opponents at Northampton, the Midlands, had to introduce new blood for the first time in this championship.

Northard, the Nottingham centre, has withdrawn because of a virus, and Buttimore (Leicester) takes his place. Not that the change should affect the Midlands, except to increase their attacking options in the hope of giving John Finlan, their retiring chairman of selectors, a good send-off after 10 years which include a period as a national selector.

The Midlands must find ways and means of holding the North at the lineout; elsewhere their game has proved effective and Alan Davies, their coach, said: "Our pack has provided enough ball for Les Cusworth to involve everyone and that will continue to be our aim." Nor will the North overlook the part played by Hodgkinson in this, and past, championships.

Normally his club's stand-off half, Hodgkinson has been impressive at full back for the Midlands, quite apart from his scoring feats with his right foot. During the past three seasons of divisional rugby he has scored 84 of the Midlands's 136 points, 23 of them this season. It was at Northampton two years ago that he helped his side to the divisional championship and anything better than a two-point win today will give the Midlands a better points differential than the hitherto unbeaten North.

London entertain the South-West at Imber Court hoping desperately to avoid a whitewash. Roger Uttley, London's coach, has been on jury service this week; the main indictment against his side thus far has been an inability to make effective use of their backs and the South-West back row is likely to prove an unforgiving combination.

● Family and friends of the Robinson family from Taunton, will have difficulty in deciding which part of London to visit today: Sean is at full back for Saracens against Bath, his brother Andy plays divisional rugby for the South-West on the Metropolitan Police ground and the youngest brother, Peter, is at No. 8 for Somerset Colts against Warwickshire at Twickenham.

There has been a 10-year interval since Saracens last played Bath because their traditional date fell foul of the third-round John Player Cup date. Restoration of the fixture means that the London club will play every other club in the national first and second divisions this season.

● Peter Wheeler, the former England hooker and captain, is to take over the coaching of Leicester's first team, though Graham Willars remains as club coach. This is the conclusion of a nine-month rethink on the club's coaching policy.

DIVISIONAL TEAMS

At Northampton

MIDLAND DIVISION: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham); E Saunders (Rugby), T Buttimore (Leicester), G Hartley (Nottingham), C Jones (Nottingham); L Cusworth (Leicester), S Robson (Moseley); L Johnson (Coventry), B Moore (Nottingham), G Pearce (Northampton), J Wells (Leicester), J Orwin (Bedford, capt), V Cannon (Northampton), G Rees (Nottingham), D Richards (Leicester).

NORTHERN DIVISION: R Adamson (Wakefield); M Harrison (Wakefield, capt), W Carling (Durham University), J Buckton (Saracens), R Underwood (Leicester); R Andrew (Wasps), N Melville (Wasps); M Whitcombe (Sale), M Fenwick (Durham City), S Peters (Waterloo), S Tipping (Sale), W Dooley (Fylde), D Cusani (Orrell), P Winterbottom (Headingley), A Macfarlane (Fylde).

Referee: R Quittenton (London).

At Imber Court

LONDON DIVISION: N Stringer (Wasps); S Hunter (Harlequins), J Salmon (Harlequins), L Smith (Saracens), M Bailey (Wasps, capt); N Colyer (Blackheath), M Hancock (Cambridge University); P Rendall (Wasps), J Olver (Harlequins), J Probyn (Wasps), M Skinner (Harlequins), N Edwards (Harlequins), S O'Leary (Wasps), D Pegler (Wasps), M Rose (Wasps).

SOUTH-WEST DIVISION: J Webb (Bristol); D Trick (Bath), A Buzza (Loughborough University), R Knibbs (Bristol), A Swift (Bath); M Hamlin (Gloucester), R Harding (Bristol, capt); G Chilcott (Bath), G Dawe (Bath), R Pascall (Gloucester), A Dun (Bristol), N Redman (Bath), J Brain (Gloucester), A Robinson (Bath), D Egerton (Bath).

Referee: C High (Manchester).



Mike Harrison returns to captain the North

Board vacancy attracts 63 hopeful applicants

Shortly after Christmas, consultants employed by the International Rugby Football Board will begin processing applications for the post of the first permanent secretary to the board (David Hands writes). The closing date for applicants was yesterday, by which time the board had received 63 letters, the bulk of them from Britain though there may still have been some additional mail to come from overseas.

Air Commodore Bob Weighill, the present honorary secretary, has a meeting on January 8 with the consultants to discuss a shortlist of candidates, who will eventually be interviewed — probably late in January or during February — by the board's policy committee together with the officers, Albert Ferrasse, the chairman, Marcel Martin, the treasurer (both from France) and Air Commodore Weighill.

The policy committee consists of Keith Rowlands (Wales), the chairman, John Kendall-Carpenter (England), Ronnie Dawson (Ireland), Ken Smith (Scotland) and Ross Turnbull (Australia). There would, however, be something of a readjustment if a member of the committee itself were among the applicants: Rowlands's name has been linked, in some circles, with the job.

Irwin can show he is worthy of Mullin's position

By George Ace

Brian Spillane, the London Irish back row forward, will not only miss this afternoon's Irish trial at Lansdowne Road but also the rest of the season. Spillane, aged 27, received a serious eye injury during a club match with Northampton last weekend and remains in considerable discomfort in Moorfields Hospital, London.

He has had five stitches in an eyelid but there is too much swelling for doctors to say whether he has suffered permanent damage to the eyeball. He is likely to remain in hospital over Christmas; both he and the club have emphasised that it was entirely accidental.

Ironically a beneficiary of his injury is Gibson, his club colleague, who plays in the senior side in what could be one of the most competitive trials in years. In previous trials those on the Whites (Probables) had a fair idea that unless they committed an act of crass stupidity they would be in the Ireland team for the opening international. Such is not the case today.

Behind the scrum the consistently excellent form of Irwin, the Ulster captain, throughout the inter-provincial series, threatens the position of Mullin, who must be in danger of being left out for the first time since his international debut, against Australia in 1984.

Up front only four players can look forward with a degree of certainty to be named on Sunday for the game against Scotland — Matthews, Des Fitzgerald, Lenihan and Anderson. There is a strong lobby for the recall of Ciaran Fitzgerald as captain and hooker but while his leadership qualities are not in doubt he will be 39 by the time the next World Cup comes around and Lenihan, the present captain, is learning all the time.

Don Whittle is the "dark house" most likely to emerge from the Blues pack. At 6ft 3in and 16 stone plus, Whittle is by no means devoid of pace, even if not a Nigel Carr, utterly fearless in the tackle and a relentless forager in the loose.

WHITES: H MacNeill (London Irish); T Ringland (Ballymena), B Mullin (Oxford University), M Keenan (Dolphin), K Crossan (Instonians); P Dean (St Mary's College), M Bradley (Constitution); J Fitzgerald (Young Munster), T Kingston (Dolphin), J McCoy (Bangor), P Matthews (Wanderers), D Lenihan (Constitution, capt), W Anderson (Dungannon), J Sexton (Garryowen), M Gibson (London Irish).

BLUES: P Danaher (Lansdowne); P Haycock (Terenure College), D Irwin (Instonians), W Harbinson (London Irish), J Sexton (Dublin University); A Ward (Greystones), F Aherne (Dolphin); P Clohessy (Young Munster), C Fitzgerald (St Mary's College, capt), D Fitzgerald (Lansdowne), D McBride (Malone), F Kearney (Sunday's Well), C Morrison (Malone), D Whittle (Bangor), D Morrow (Bangor).

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

Leicester v Bristol
Leicester have Hare and Youngs back in the side but await fitness reports on Povoas (groin) and Marriott (influenza) in the back row. Bristol are happy that the divisional selectors have overlooked Hogg, increasingly influential at stand-off.

Blackheath v Richmond
Blackheath include Holcombe and Slater at half back and Stokes in the front row. Huisman, the South African flanker, makes his league debut for Richmond who have Cullen at scrum half.

L'pool St H v Rosslyn Pk
Park have Jermyn back at stand-off for their top-table second division game with Liverpool St Helens. Ripley is restored to the pack instead of Foulds. Even if Liverpool win they cannot dislodge Park from the top spot.

L Welsh v L Irish
Injuries and unavailability have meant sweeping changes in the Welsh line-up, where Jenkins and Griffiths join the backs, Lewis, Sweeney and Sandford, the pack. The Irish miss five internationals with Fitzgerald, Marty and Neary in the back row.

Fylde v Vale of Lune
Fylde hope to have Hanavan on the wing and play Moffitt and Faulkner at prop. The Vale's backs are without Taylor (broken leg), but Hodgson and Dent return to the pack.

Wakefield v Sheffield
Wakefield have Barley back from the Dubai sevens and bring in Bowers, Lilley and Fennell. Fairclough, who has 17 tries for Sheffield, moves from wing to centre and Bill Reichwald and Pierce return.

Coventry v Gloucester
Coventry play Heggatt instead of the injured Hyde at lock and Wright joins the back row. Gloucester's scrum half crisis has passed and Beytell joins a side much weakened by divisional calls.

Moseley v Bedford
Steve Pearce, brother of former Welsh stand-off Gary, makes his stand-off debut for Moseley and Freeman, the Cambridge Blue, appears at prop, alongside Barbor who is over hamstring trouble. Bedford remain without senior forwards, Orwin and Howe.

GOLF

Davies in support of divorce from PGA

By Mitchell Platts

Laura Davies, the US Open champion, yesterday supported the WPGA's move for independence as her committee finally lifted the veil of secrecy drawn over negotiations with the Professional Golfers' Association.

The WPGA has ballotted the membership, seeking a decision by January 15 on whether they wish to become an autonomous body or remain attached to the PGA for at least a further three years.

Beverley Huke, vice-chairman of the WPGA, said: "We have not expressed our view before because at a meeting on November 12, at which the PGA put forward certain proposals which we found to be unacceptable, we were requested not to discuss the matter. We were told either to accept the proposals or to leave the PGA by January 1, 1988.

"Subsequently, the PGA came back to us with a very generous offer and with recommendations which were consistent with the thoughts of the committee. We believe that the time is right for us to go it alone, and we are grateful to the PGA that if we do so we will be able to engage some of their staff and to operate from their premises throughout 1988."

Miss Davies, who won the US Open in July, said: "It's been lovely going along with the PGA and I accept they have done a wonderful job for us. But if we are to make significant progress in the future then I believe it is best for us to break away from them at this time."

The WPGA was £170,000 in the black on its last balance sheet, but that figure is likely to shrink, possibly to a deficit, by the time all the costs are accounted for.

Miss Huke explained: "We realized it would be a costly operation because we have hired the very best lawyers to ensure that every move we make is beneficial to the WPGA. Even so, it would cost a great deal more if we decided to take this action in, say, three years time.

"The PGA, too, agrees that in time we must make a move for independence. If 51 per cent of the membership of 155 vote for us to go on our own, then we will need the Board of the PGA to sanction our departure. That would be done at a special meeting on March 29.

"There has been a great deal of conjecture about us jumping out of bed with the PGA and straight into bed with another company such as the International Management Group. That I can categorically state will not happen. We have discussed our situation with IMG, and we are prepared to do so with other companies, but to achieve the best working environment for our players we believe it is imperative to be totally unrestained.

"We wish to follow the same route along which Ken Schofield has guided the PGA European Tour so successfully. Ken told me that when he took over the reins at Wentworth he was told that if he got the Tour into bed with IMG then they would be taken over by them. Ken insists that was never going to be the case and that it is possible to work *with* a company such as IMG. That would be our aim. We are the youngest golf tour in the world. We have a lot of history on which to lean and I hope that by this time next year we will have an even brighter future."

Major teams travel cup trail nervously

By Gerald Davies

While Penygraig still await the outcome of the unseemly squabble between Tredegar and Glamorgan Wanderers to discover their opponents in the fourth round of the Schweppes Cup on December 28, all the other matches are on today.

To add extra spice this afternoon, seven of the big clubs will visit the smaller clubs which, as they travel, is never a comfortable prospect regardless of previous form. Of those Cardiff, Newport and South Wales Police will expend more than their usual amount of nervous energy worrying about what lies in wait for them at Aberavon Quins, Bedwas and Neath Athletic respectively.

The first of these are having a good season and in the past have beaten Cross Keys and Maesteg. Bedwas have reached the last 16 on three occasions between 1978 and 1980, while Neath Athletic are unbeaten since September, scoring 73 tries in 16 games.

To indicate the problems which can arise Pontypool have played Pontarddulais twice before. At home, the Gwent club won by 52 points without reply, but when they travelled to West Wales the score was close until late in the game when they finally won by 34-12. Llanelli visit Whitland many of whose players represented Pembrokeshire against the American Eagles recently.

No excuse for perennial Welsh injury problem

By Gerald Davies

The general review of Wales's performance in the World Cup will have included considerable emphasis on the fact that 19 players were injured during the period of the competition.

Depending on your point of view, the players could be said to have done well in spite of mounting disadvantages, or the injuries could be used as an excuse to imagine what the team might have done if all the players had been fit.

The latter is an eccentricity. But the former should not get much sympathy either. Whoever it is in the Welsh Rugby Union who governs these matters, he apparently believes that such injuries are a simple fact of a rough life and that there is not very much that can be done to correct the problem.

Last week, in conjunction with the South Pacific Games, an international sports medicine conference was held in Noumea, New Caledonia. The four-day conference was devoted to the incidence of injuries, their prevention and the conditioning required of players with special reference to the World Cup.

Since it was on their territory, France, through FIRA, had set the agenda. Although an invitation had been sent, no one turned up from Wales. In fact, John Davies, the honorary doctor to the WRU, was due, because of his specialist knowledge in the field, to deliver a paper on the incidents of knee injuries.

His name was down on the programme as a guest speaker. His application to the finance committee of the WRU to fund the cost of the travel, and on whose behalf he had hoped to go, was rejected. Since it was the finance committee which made the decision it is no wild surmise to believe that it was turned down, no doubt, on sound financial reasons.

In terms of rugby football, it was both myopic and blinkered.

One of the most urgent tasks facing Wales on any future tours is to minimize the number of injuries. New Zealand were to make a contribution at the conference and if one thing has been perennially true it is how much better conditioned they are to the rigours of rugby football.

In the World Cup they had only two players injured throughout the tournament. And they rarely have to call on replacements on their overseas visits in the way that British Lions often have to do. The last Lions to New Zealand in 1983 had six replacements in 18 games; there were eight to South Africa in 1980. New Zealand, on the other hand, on nine visits to these islands and other European countries since 1967, and playing 116 games, have called on six replacements in all.

At any rate, this is nothing new for Wales. On their 1978 tour to Australia, Gerry Lewis, the then physiotherapist to the team, listed a total of 59 injuries on a six-week tour. Of these, 21 occurred in training.

"The most interesting factor to emerge from the analysis," John Davies said "was that all the injuries incurred during training were tendon and ligament strains or pulled muscles. And since so many occurred before the tour began, an adequate period of acclimatization is needed. This would necessitate a thorough examination of the type and frequency of the training sessions." This was written in 1980.

There is little proof that this advice was heeded in the World Cup with 19 players injured and four replacements called for. Two of these replacements had to be flown out at the union's expense. Might not that money be better spent in advancing their own honorary doctor's knowledge as to how such injuries, might, in the future, be prevented?

Not that the union is in any short supply of money. Recently it voted for a member to accompany the Crawshay's team for a week to the Dubai sevens. Not that there should be anything essentially wrong with that, since Wales ought to see itself represented on the world's stage. It is an odd list of priorities which allows the one but denies the other.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League
First division
Arsenal v Everton
Liverpool v Sheffield Wed
Oxford v Nottingham F
Portsmouth v Manchester Utd
West Ham v [illegible]stle

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Glenavon; Ballymena v Glentoran; Carrick v Distillery; Crusaders v Cliftonville; Linfield v Larne; Newry v Bangor; Portadown v Coleraine.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester United v Sunderland (2.0).

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION: Reading v Bristol Rovers (2.0); Southampton v Fulham (2.0); Tottenham v Ipswich (2.0); Watford v Portsmouth.

FA TROPHY: First round: Aylesbury v Kettering; Banbury v Wealdstone; Bangor City v Boston; Bromsgrove v Blyth; Burton v Barrow; Buxton v Telford; Caernarfon v Stafford; Cambridge City v Poole; Enfield v Worthing; Fareham v Hendon; Farnborough v Crawley; Fisher v Marlow; Gateshead v Corby; Gloucester v Yeovil; Harrow v Weymouth; Hyde v Altrincham; Kidderminster v Frickley; Macclesfield v Bishop Auckland; Maidstone v Dartford; Newcastle Blue Star v Rhyl; Nuneaton v Marine; Runcorn v Northwich; Slough v Dagenham; South Bank v Spennymoor; South Liverpool v Lincoln City; Sutton United v Bishop's Stortford; Welling v Leyton-Wingate; Windsor and Eton v Barnet; Witton v Whitby; Wokingham v Tooting and Mitcham; Wycombe v Cheltenham.

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Second division north: Berkhamsted v Tring; Clapton v Hertford; Finchley v Aveley; Hornchurch v Haringey Borough; Letchworth GC v Vauxhall Motors; Royston v Saffron Walden; Tilbury v Hemel Hempstead. Second division south: Chertsey v Eastbourne United; Epsom and Ewell v Ruislip Manor; Feltham v Maidenhead United; Harefield v Hungerford; Horsham v Metropolitan Police; Petersfield v Chalfont St Peter.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.0): First division: Charlton v Portsmouth; Chelsea v Millwall; Fulham v Watford; Ipswich v Queen's Park Rangers; Southend v Leyton Orient; West Ham v Cambridge. Second division: Bournemouth v Oxford; Brentford v Luton; Brighton v Colchester; Bristol City v Reading; Bristol Rovers v Crystal Palace. League Cup: Third round: Southampton v Arsenal; Swindon v Gillingham; Wimbledon v Norwich. Postponed: Tottenham v Northampton.

SPORT ON TV

ATHLETICS: HFC/IAC Cross-country race from Cardiff. ITV: 2.15 p.m.

EQUESTRIANISM: Show jumping from Olympia. BBC1: 10.50 p.m. (see also Grandstand).

GRANDSTAND: Cricket: Third Test latest news: Pakistan v England from Karachi. Football focus. Racing: 12.50, 1.20 and 1.55 races from Ascot. Motor Sport: Formula Ford 2,000 final from Brands Hatch. Rugby League: John Player Special Trophy: Semi-final: live coverage of Oldham v St Helens from Wigan. Skiing: Men's giant slalom from Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia; Women's slalom from Piancavallo, Italy. Equestrianism: Show jumping from Olympia. Final score: 4.40. BBC1: 12.15-5.05 p.m.

GYMNASTICS: Kraft International live from Alexandra Palace. ITV: 3.0-4.45 p.m.

SAINT AND GREAVSIE: ITV: 1.05 p.m. Results service 4.45 p.m.

TENNIS: Davis Cup final: Sweden v India from Göteborg. C4: 11.50 p.m.

Tomorrow

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Action from America's National Football League. C4: 6 p.m.

EQUESTRIANISM: Show jumping from Olympia. BBC1: 3.50 and 10.45 p.m.

FOOTBALL: Big match live: Derby County v Tottenham Hotspur from the Baseball ground. ITV: 2.30 p.m.

RUGBY SPECIAL: Toshiba Divisional Championships: London v South and South West from Imber Court and Midlands v North from Northampton and Schweppes Welsh Cup fourth round: Pontarddulais v Pontypool. BBC2: 2 p.m.

SKI SUNDAY: World Cup: Men from Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia; Women from Piancavallo, Italy. BBC2: 6.30 p.m.

TENNIS: Davis Cup final: Sweden v India from Göteborg. C4: 12.0 p.m.

100 GREAT SPORTING MOMENTS: Wimbledon 1971: Quarter-final match between Ken Rosewall and Cliff Richey. BBC2: 2.40-3.0 p.m.

Second division
Barnsley v Millwall
Blackburn v Birmingham
Bournemouth v Middlesbrough
Hull v Crystal Palace
Leeds v Huddersfield
Manchester C v Oldham
Stoke v Reading

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Bilston v Atherstone; Coventry Sporting v Bridgnorth; Forest Green v Rushden; King's Lynn v Trowbridge; Moor Green v Halesowen; Stourbridge v Mile Oak; Wellingborough v Dudley.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Netherfield v Sutton Town. First division Cup: First round, first leg: Accrington Stanley v Radcliffe; Congleton v Eastwood Hanley; Droylsden v Harrogate; Eastwood v Penrith; Fleetwood v Altrincham; Lancaster v Irlam; Leek v Curzon Ashton; Winsford v Stalybridge.

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division (2.15): AFC Cardiff v Caerleon; Aberystwyth v Bleanrhondda; Barry v Brecon; Briton Ferry v Pembroke; Cwmbran v Bridgend; Haverfordwest v Ebbw Vale; Maesteg Park v Pontllanfraith; Milford v Llanelli; Ton Pentre v Port Talbot.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Chippenham; Bristol City v Barnstaple; Clevedon v Swanage and Herston; Exmouth v Clandown; Frome v Dawlish; Liskeard v Taunton; Melksham v Plymouth Argyle; Paulton v Mangotsfield; Radstock v Bristol Manor Farm; Weston-super-Mare v Saltash; Torrington v Minehead (2.30).

DRYBROUGHS NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett v Brandon; Chester-le-Street v Essington; Crook v Gretna; North Shields v Whitley Bay (3.15); Shildon v Ryhope CA (3.15); Tow Law v Guisborough (2.0). Tetley League Cup: Second round: Billingham Synthonia v Ferryhill.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Premier division (2.0): Bridlington Trinity v Brigg; Hallam v Armthorpe Welfare; Pontefract Collieries v Thackley (3.0).

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE (2.0): First division: Atherton LR v St Helens; Clitheroe v Bootle; Colne Dynamoes v Colwyn Bay (3.0); Ellesmere Port and Neston v Formby; Glossop v Darwen; Kirkby v Leyland Motors; Prescot Cables v Warrington; Rossendale v Skelmersdale; Salford v Burscough.

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: First round (1.30): St. Edmund's Old Boys v Old Salopians.

Third division
Aldershot v Grimsby (3.15)
Blackpool v Southend
Bristol R v Brighton
Doncaster v Bristol C
Fulham v Chesterfield
Notts Co v Preston
Wigan v Northampton

Northern Premier League
Premier division
Chorley v Mossley
Goole v Horwich
Matlock v Southport
Workington v Oswestry

Beazer Homes League
Premier division
Alvechurch v Redditch
Ashford v Willenhall
Dorchester v Bedworth
Leicester Utd v Witney
Shepshed v Gosport
Worcester v Chelmsford

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE (2.0): Premier division: Old Brentwoods v Old Etonians; Old Foresters v Old Malvernians; Old Carthusians v Old Reptonians. First division: Old Aldenhamians v Old Bradfieldians; Old Harrovians v Old Westminsters; Lancing Old Boys v Old Wykehamists; Old Wellingtonians v Old Ardinians.

FA VASE: Third round replays: Unisaco v Durham (1.0); Haringey v Thetford; Norton Spencer v Southgate (1.30); Gresley v RSSC Ransomes; Shortwood v St Austell (1.30).

BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: First Round (2.0): Abingdon United v Amersham; Didcot v Buckingham; Newport Pagnell v Flackwell Heath; Wallingford v Beaconsfield.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Fifth qualifying round: Camberley v Banstead; Chobham v Egham; Malden Vale v Dorking; Redhill v Cove; Whyteleafe v Ash.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Second round, second replay: Three Bridges v Hailsham.

OTHER MATCHES: Baldock v Folkestone; Basildon v Leatherhead; Canterbury v Sheppey; Corinthian Casuals v Dunstable; Dover v Ruislip; Salisbury v Tonbridge; Wembley v Oxford City.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Murrayfield Racers (7.0); Fife Flyers v Nottingham Panthers (7.15); Peterborough Pirates v Solihull Barons (5.45); Streatham Redskins v Dundee Rockets (5.45).

LACROSSE

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Cheadle v Urmston; Mellor v Rochdale; Old Hulmeians v Heaton Mersey; Old Waconians v Stockport; Sale v Boardman and Eccles.

BRINE SOUTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Buckhurst Hill v Hillcroft.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE (8.0): Birmingham v Calderdale; Bolton and Bury v MIM Livingston; Bracknell v Kingston; Derby v BCP London; Leicester v Hemel and Watford; Manchester United v Sunderland; Portsmouth v Solent.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (men) (8.0): Blossoms Port v Market Harborough; Worthing v Tower Hamlets.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division women: Northampton v London Jets (7.30).

HANDBALL

BRITISH LEAGUE (men): Leicester '73 v Ashford Tanners (1.30).

Fourth division
Bolton v Wrexham
Cardiff v Burnley
Darlington v Swansea
Hereford v Hartlepool
Rochdale v Newport
Stockport v Scarborough
Wolverhampton v Leyton Orient

Fine Fare Scottish League
Premier division
Celtic v Aberdeen
Dundee v Hearts
Dunfermline v Morton
Hibernian v Falkirk
Motherwell v Rangers
St Mirren v Dundee Utd

First division
Airdrie v Clyde
Clydebank v Kilmarnock
Forfar v E Fife
Partick v Dumbarton
Queen of Sth v Hamilton
Raith v Meadowbank

Second division
Ayr v Cowdenbeath
E Stirling v Alloa
Montrose v Arbroath
Queen's Park v Brechin
Stenhsmuir v Berwick
Stirling v Albion
Stranraer v St Johnstone

Southern division
Baldock v Folkestone
Burnham v Chatham
Canterbury v Sheppey
Corinthian v Dunstable
Dover v Ruislip
Erith and B v Gravesend and N
Hounslow v Waterlooville
Salisbury v Tonbridge
Thanet v Bury

Vauxhall-Opel League
Premier division
Barking v Bognor
Croydon v Hayes
Dulwich v Basingstoke
Leytonstone-Ilford v Hitchin

First division
Basildon v Leatherhead
Billericay v Walthamstow
Bracknell v Kingsbury
Chesham v Hampton
Grays v Wolverton
Southwick v Walton and Hersham
Stevenage v Boreham Wood
Wembley v Oxford City
Woking v Staines

RUGBY LEAGUE

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Oldham v St Helens (at Wigan, 2.15).

SLALOM LAGER NATIONAL AMATEUR LEAGUE CUP: Preliminary round (2.30): Egremont v Wodston.

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: HFC cross-country international (at Cardiff); Metro Radio Saltwell road races (at Newcastle).

BILLIARDS: Monarties World championship: Preliminary rounds (at Bristol).

BOWLS: Indoor county match: Hertfordshire v Derbyshire (at Riverain).

EQUESTRIANISM: Olympia international show.

GYMNASTICS: Kraft International (at Wembley).

SQUASH RACKETS: British doubles championships (at Cannons club, London, EC4).

RUGBY UNION
TOSHIBA DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
London v South and South West (at Imber Court)
Midlands v North (at Northampton, 2.15)

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP
First division
Leicester v Bristol
Second division
Blackheath v Richmond (2.15)
Lpool St Helens v Rosslyn Pk (2.30)
London Welsh v London Irish (2.15)
Third division
Exeter v Plymouth (2.30)
Fylde v Vale of Lune (2.15)
Wakefield v Sheffield (2.30)

SCHWEPPES WELSH CUP
Fourth round
Aberavon v Carmarthen Ath
Aberavon Quins v Cardiff (2.30)
Bedwas v Newport (2.30)
Bonymaen v Swansea (2.30)
Bridgend v Garndiffaith
Carmarthen v Pencoed (2.30)
Durvant v Neath (2.30)
Gilfach Goch v Llanharan (2.30)
Hirwaun v Ebbw Vale (2.30)
Maesteg v St Peters
Neath Ath v S Wales Police (2.0)
Newbridge v Nantyffyllon (2.30)
Pontarddulais v Pontypool (2.30)
Whitland v Llanelli (2.30)
Ystrd Rhndda v Pontypridd (2.30)

IRISH TRIAL
Whites v Blues (at Lansdowne Road, 2.30)

CLUB MATCHES
Birmingham v Harrogate (2.30)
Boroughmr v Middlsbrgh (2.30)
Bradford v Nuneaton (2.30)
Coventry v Gloucester
Cross Keys v Cheltenham
Durham v Gosforth (2.30)
Halifax v Broughton Park (2.30)
Havant v Gosport (2.30)
Headingley v Sale (2.30)
Hull and ER v W Hartlepool (2.30)
L Scottish v Birkenhead Pk (12.0)
Morley v Northern (2.30)
Moseley v Bedford
Nottingham v Met Police
Otley v Orrell (2.15)
Preston Grshprs v Huddersfld (2.30)
Rugby v Harlequins (2.30)
Saracens v Bath (2.15)
Wasps v Northampton
Waterloo v Roundhay (2.15)

McEWAN'S SCOTTISH INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP
Anglo Scots v Edinburgh (at Richmond, 2.0)
South v North and Midlands (at Hawick, 2.0)

SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL: Scottish Schools v French Schools (at Goldenacre, 2.0)

TOSHIBA COUNTY COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Somerset v Warwickshire (at Twickenham, 2.0).

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Bisley Office Equipment Southern Merit Table: Guildford and Godalming v Reading; Marlow v Maidenhead. British Car Auctions Old Boys Merit Table: KCS Old Boys v Old Paulines; Old Alleynians v Old Haileyburians; Old Reigatians v Old Tiffinians; Old Whitgiftians v Old Habberdashers. Foster Beard Middlesex Merit Table: Hendon v Civil Service; Grasshoppers v Lansbury. Tandem Computers Senior Counties Merit Table: Thurrock v Maidstone. Club matches: Antlers v Harrodians; Ashford v Old Gravesendians; Aylesbury v Harrow; Bancroft v Old Westcliffians; Barclays Bank v Old Suttonians; Barnet v Mill Hill; Beaconsfield v Chiltern; Bec Old Boys v Battersea ironsides; Biggleswade v Old Camabrigians; Bury St Edmunds v Chelmsford; Camberley v Eastleigh; Cheshunt v Leighon Buzzard; Colchester v Bedford Athletic; Crawley v Wimbledon; Crusaders v West Norfolk; Dorking v Tonbridge; East Grinstead v Wartingham; Esher v Guy's Hospital; Futterians v Old Gaytonians; Gillingham Anchorians v Charlton Park; Gravesend v Medway; Havant v Gosport; Hemel Hempstead v Old Albanians; Hove v Cranleigh; Ipswich YMCA v Rochford; Letchworth GC v Stockwood Park; Lewes v Eastbourne; Lloyds Bank v Old Shootershillians; Midland Bank v Park House; Mitcham v Old Meadonians; Norwich v Ipswich; Old Beccehamians v West Kent Bank; Old Brocklesians v Beckenham; Old Colfeians v Aylesens; Old Elizabethans v Old Kingsburians; Old Ethelnians v Old Dunstonians; Old Emanuel v Old Ruffelshians; Old Grammarians v Upminster; Old Juddians v Hastings and Bexhill; Old Millhillians v UCS Old Boys; Old Pelhamians v Effingham; Old Reedonians v Bank of England; Old Thamesians v University Vandals; Old Wandsworthians v Kingston; Old Wimbledonians v Old Wolcountians; Oxford Old Boys v High Wycombe; Portsmouth v Salisbury; Purley v London Hospital; Redbridge v Greenwich; Redingensians v Chinnor; Ruislip v Bracknell; Saffron Walden v Bacavians; Sidcup v Dartfordians; Slough v Uxbridge; Southampton v Alton; Southend v Hertford; Sudbury v Chingford; Sudbury Court v Old Tottonians; Sutton and Epsom v Wescombe Park; Swanage and Wareham v Chichester; Tabard v Old Verulamians; Thanet Wanderers v Vigo; Tring v Dunstablians; Trojans v Wimborne; Upper Clapton v Old Merchant Taylors; Watford v Harpenden; Welwyn v Harlow; Winchester v Abbey; Woodford v Henley; Worthing v Brighton.

MIDLANDS: Club matches: Bedworth v Coventry Welsh; Belgrave v Amber Valley; Birmingham Civil Service v Dunlop; Boston v Stamford; Broad Street v Banbury; Chelmsford XV v Droitwich; Coventry Saracens v Atherstone; Davenport v Wolverhampton; Dudley Kingswinford v Stoke; Earlsdon v Kibworth; Erdington v Old Warwickians; Five Ways v Malvern; GSC Coventry v Birmingham Welsh; Handsworth v Old Silhillians; Hereford v Cinderford; Hinckley v Burton; Kenilworth v Newbold; Kidderminster Carolians v Oldbnians; Kings Norton v Birmingham United; Leamington v Kettering; Lichfield v Tamworth; Long Buckby v Syston; Lutonians v Old Halesonians; Mansfield v Modems; Market Rasen v Melksh; Newark v Scunthorpe; Newcastle v Bridgnorth; Nuneaton OE v Old Yardleians; Oadby Wyggestonians v Keresley; Old Laurentians v Ampthill; Old Leamingtonians v Stoneygate; Old Longtonians v Telford; Old Newtonians v Old Coventrians; Old Northamptonians v Barker's Butts; Old Wheatleyans v Manor Park; Old Yardleians v Nuneaton OE; Pavlors v Loughbourgh; Peterborough v Nottingham Corsairs; Redditch v Aston OE; Rubery Owen v Birmingham City Officials; Shipston v Birchfield; Shrewsbury v Crewe and Nantwich; Solihull v Oxford; Southwell v South Leicester; Stretford v Wigston; Sutton Coldfield v Camp Hill; Tamworth v Stoke Old Boys; Towcester v Lutterworth; Trinity Guild v Rugby Welsh; Vasseyans v Old Salleians; Vipers v Stretchley; West Leicester v Aylestone St James.

NORTH: Club matches: Belldon v Moortown; Barnsley v Rotherham; Beverley v Ionians; Bramley v Wheatley Hills; Chester v Old Anselmians; Cleckheaton v Old Hymerians; Davenport v Wolverhampton; Doncaster v Selby; Driffield v Bridlington; Heaton Moor v Rochdale; Hessle v Yarnbury; Hornsea v Burley; Huddersfield YMCA v Old Rishworthians; Hull and ER v West Hartlepool; Hullensians v Malton and Norton; Ilkley v Hemsworth; Kensal v Burnage; Lymm v Sedgley Park; Leigh v Ruthin; Littleborough v Hensworth; Manchester v West Park; Marist v Acklam; New Brighton v Nuneaton; North Ribblesdale v Skipton; Old Brodleians v Castleford; Pontefract v Knottingley; Rodillians v West Leeds; Roundhegians v Bradford Salem; Sheffield Tigers v Chesterfield; Thornensians v Sandal; Warrington v Oldham; Wath-on-Dearne v Goole; Wetherby v Leodensians; Whitby v Yorkshire CW; Widnes v Wigan; Wrenington Park v Wirral; Wilmslow v Kendal; York v Scarborough; York Ri v Pocklington.

ULSTER: Club matches: Academy v NIFC; CIYMS v Lansdowne; Instonians v Dublin University; Armagh v Portadown; City of Derry v Bangor; Wanderers v Collegians; Ballymena v Old Wesley; Dungannon v Clontarf; Skerries v Ards. Colours match: University College Cork v Queens University.

HOCKEY

TOURNAMENT: Men's home internationals (at Perth).

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE (2.15): Bromley v Purley; Guildford v Beckenham; Hampstead v St Albans; Old Kingstonians v Hounslow; Richmond v Blackheath; Spencer v Cheam; Surbiton v Dulwich; Weybridge Hawks v Southgate; Wimbledon v Maidenhead.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE (2.15): First division south: Pakistan Independent v Maldon; Southend v Stevenage.

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TENNIS: LEGACY OF BJORN BORG IS A TEAM OF ALL-ROUND TALENT AND UNPARALLELED STRENGTH IN DEPTH

Indian summer looms for Sweden

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Gothenburg

Hasse Olsson, Sweden's Davis Cup captain, looks as doleful as a basset hound but, inside, is a happy man. He can hardly believe that life has been so good to him. In the past four years his players have been champions twice and runners-up twice: and there is no reason why they should not carry on that way into the 1990s.

Sweden reached this year's final against India by winning three ties away from home, in Italy, France and Spain. Davis Cup teams need only two singles players and a doubles pair. Often, two men share the entire burden. But Olsson has been able to call on six different singles players and two doubles teams.

There is not much to choose between the leading Swedes, though Mats Wilander and Stefan Edberg have achieved more than the others in the singles game and Anders Jarryd has the best doubles record. The entire team enviably combines youth with experience: and players of comparable quality are waiting in the wings.

By contrast, the first Swedish team to win the Davis Cup, in 1975, was almost a one-man show. That man was Bjorn Borg, whose eminence as a singles player tended to obscure the success of his doubles partnership with the massively amiable Ove Bengtson.

In those days, the Sweden's team was a question of Borg plus a comparatively modest supporting cast. Most nations would be grateful for that measure of talent. India certainly would. Instead, they must make do with Ramesh Krishnan, whose renown rests chiefly on Wimbledon and United States quarter-finals, and the brothers, Vijay and Anand Amritraj, two part-timers in their middle thirties.

India did remarkably well to beat Argentina and Israel in New Delhi and Australia in Sydney. But they arrived in Gothenburg as the most obvious underdogs since Britain played the United States at Palm Springs in 1978. After the draw, Wilander made the point that Sweden could take nothing for granted, that "the Davis Cup final is always very special."

True. But tennis is not at all like football, in which maximum effort and a fluke goal sometimes confound odds-on favourites. Winning three sets in three matches out of five demands a consistently-high level of performance. The disparity between Sweden and India was too wide to leave room for doubt about the ultimate outcome.

On the other hand, we could at least be confident that the Indians would enjoy themselves, because that is the way they play tennis. They would have had fun, too, at a restaurant we found the other evening — because boxes of prawns were ferried across a little pond in model ships, controlled by an electronic device handled by often baffled diners. It was a question of pressing the right buttons in order to guide the craft to the relevant poolside table. Nobody ate until their boat came in. This business of tennis reporting can, at times, be awfully challenging.

Dining was presumably more straightforward in the days of the first Scandinavian to achieve international renown in tennis. That was Molla Mallory (née Bjurstedt), whose rivalry with Suzanne Lenglen is a feature of Alan Little's latest monograph, 'Suzanne Lenglen — Tennis Idol of the Twenties', a 104-page hardback published by the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum at £3.50.

Little's factual, plainly-told narrative is essentially a reference work embellished by 40 evocative black and white photographs and a detailed record of Miss Lenglen's matches. Its tennotsly-topical *raison d'etre* is that 1988 will be the 50th anniversary of Miss Lenglen's premature death.

We are well aware that Miss Lenglen won all three Wimbledon championships on three occasions. But Little also reminds us of her childhood expertise at diabolo and walking on stilts — and, at the end of her career, a professional tour on which Miss Lenglen played tennis in such unlikely settings as Hampden Park, Bloomfield Road, and Old Trafford. Not a lot of people know that.

Wilander wins

Mats Wilander beat Ramesh Krishnan, 6-4, 6-1, 6-3, to give Sweden a 1-0 lead over India in the Davis Cup final at Gothenburg last night.

SHOW JUMPING

Blue Moon proves himself as an indoor specialist

By Jenny MacArthur

Alan Fazakerley, who is competing at the Olympia Show Jumping championships for the first time, outwitted his more experienced rivals — including his former employer John Whitaker — to win yesterday's Cognac Courvoisier Take Your Own Line competition on the Brown Group International's Blue Moon.

The win completed a treble for Fazakerley and Blue Moon, who have now won a class at each of this year's major indoor international shows in Britain — the Royal International in June, Wembley in October and Olympia where, in Fazakerley's own words, "the standard is a bit special".

The 25-year-old Lancashire-born rider will feel the full weight of that standard when he and Rebound, his top horse, compete in today's Volvo World Cup qualifier, which has attracted most of Europe's best.

Blue Moon is also capable of jumping a Grand Prix course but has had to be relegated to the role of speed horse this week. The 12-year-old gelding was not objecting to that role yesterday. Fazakerley had planned a clever route over the eight fences and Blue Moon responded with fast, clean jumping to finish in 30.92sec.

John Whitaker, for whom Fazakerley worked for five years before he joined Fred Brown's Yorkshire yard two years ago, was the only other rider to take the same line but even on the fast Next San Salvador finished more than a second outside Fazakerley's time to take third place.

Later Peter Charles, underlined his revival in fortune, when he won the Cognac Courvoisier two horse stakes. Earlier this year Charles' future in the sport looked gloomy.

Yesterday on Art Master and Flying Wild he finished more than a second ahead of David Broome who earlier had the satisfaction of seeing his former pupil Robert Bevis, aged 22, win the competitive Vauxhall Opel Young Show Jumper of the Future event on the Irish-bred Delsey.

Pierre Durand, the European champion, is expected to compete in today's World Cup qualifier after settling his dispute with the organizers of the show. Durand threatened to pull out if his horse box, which was towed away by the police on Wednesday night after it broke down just outside Olympia, was not returned. The organizers have arranged for the box to be collected and have guaranteed payment for the repairs and towage. Later Remy Martin, one of horse sport's major sponsors, announced they were picking up the bill.

RESULTS: Cognac Courvoisier Take Your Own Line: 1, Blue Moon (A Fazakerley), 30.92sec; 2, Dorado (T Fruhmann, Austria), 31.88; 3, Next San Salvador (J Whitaker), 32.08. Vauxhall Opel Young Show Jumper Of The Future: 1, Delsey (R Bevis), 0 in 30.72sec; 2, The Mint (M McCourt), 0 in 30.84; 3, Dun Magnum (P Murphy), 0 in 32.21. Cognac Courvoisier Two Horse Stakes: 1, Flying Wild and Art Master (P Charles), 59.41sec; 2, Lannegan and Royale (D Broome), 60.88; 3, Whitemgen and Kid Curry (J Glazzard), 61.02. Thursday's late result: Modern Alarms Christmas Cracker Stakes: 1, Next Milton (J Whitaker), 0 in 28.98sec; 2, Winzer (N Simon, Austria), 0 in 30.76; 3, Gaumont du Breuil (P Charles), 0 in 32.55sec.

FOOTBALL: WITH HALF THE SEASON GONE THE CHAMPIONS TROPHY IS ALREADY HALFWAY ACROSS STANLEY PARK

Everton ready to pay homage as Liverpool go chasing record

By Clive White

Arsenal could well be commiserating with Everton by 5 o'clock over the league championship leaving Goodison Park with just half the race run. With another club record in their sights Liverpool could move eight points clear of the field.

Arsenal, who no doubt continue to nurture title hopes of their own, will have some sympathy for Everton. Both clubs' ambitions have been stifled by their inability to uncover a prolific goalscorer. Everton, of course, have always managed — very successfully — to circumvent this missing asset in recent seasons. Indeed in the one season that they possessed such an individual (Lineker) they failed to win the title.

When they won the championship last season their leading goalscorer bagged a mere 14 goals and he was Steven, a midfield player, whose haul included 10 penalties. Like Everton, Arsenal have learned how to share the job around but watching them at Coventry City last week one sensed it is going to an exceptional team effort to overtake an exceptional Liverpool team.

The pressure is building up on Smith, George Graham's £800,000 forward, who has failed to score in his last seven matches. Graham claims that he has been unlucky, striking the goal frame seven times this season. But Smith, like Everton's Sharp, has always been as much a goal maker as a goal scorer and indeed his average since joining Arsenal is almost identical to that while he was at Leicester — one goal every 2.7 games.

Richardson's flair for attack, six goals in 12 matches from midfield since his move from Watford, has taken some of the pressure off Smith. Richardson is the common denominator at Highbury today, having helped win the championship in 1984-85 with Everton. "Alan is one of the most unselfish players I have ever played alongside. Many of the goals I have scored have been down to his hard work," Richardson said. Graham concurs. "As long as he keeps contributing in some postive way I'm happy," he said.

Arsenal will be relieved to see Davis back in the side after last week's insipid performance before the television cameras. Despite Everton's self-professed lack of consistency this season Graham noted that they had only been beaten once in 14 matches. The likelihood of a draw would suit Liverpool.

If Liverpool avoid defeat against Sheffield Wednesday in their nineteenth match of the season, they will equal their club record set in 1949-50.

Nottingham Forest, the only other club with the acceptable nerve to dream of challenging Liverpool for the title, could bring a little reality to their quest by winning at Oxford City. But yesterday Brian Clough, their manager, was thinking more of what the distant future held for his bright young men. As ever at the City Ground, it is a question of holding on to dreams. Webb, their England midfield player, could make it all come true if he signs a new contract.



Central defender of the Manchester United faith: Steve Bruce, his tug-of-war with Norwich City ended for a £825,000 transfer fee, happy to be the middle man now between Norman Whiteside (left) and Bryan Robson at Old Trafford yesterday

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

First division

Arsenal v Everton
Davis returns for Arsenal in place of Hayes. Everton are unchanged.

Liverpool v Sheffield Wed
Lawrenson has a hamstring strain, but Venison is back in the Liverpool squad. Megson hopes to be recalled by Wednesday after suspension.

Oxford v Nottm Forest
Forest wait on Chettle who is recovering from a thigh strain. Fleming stands by. Oxford are unchanged.

Portsmouth v Man Utd
Portsmouth recall Kennedy, Fillery and Mariner to their squad. Bruce makes his United debut. Robson is fit after twisting an ankle and returns to midfield with Whiteside set to move to attack.

West Ham v Newcastle
Brady returns for West Ham after missing four games with back trouble; Ince is also back from illness. Ward is suspended. Newcastle, unbeaten in their last five league matches, recall Gascoigne and Darren Jackson after suspension, but Wharton is suspended.

Second division

Hull v Crystal Palace
With Wright and Wood recovered from injuries, Palace should be unchanged. There is no place for O'Doherty, who has completed a ban.

Tomorrow
First division

Charlton v Chelsea
With Clarke (knee), Pates (calf) and Durie (calf) injured Chelsea are likely to keep the same side which beat Manchester City in midweek. Hazard has a late test on a groin injury, while Charlton hope to build on last week's surprise at White Hart Lane by retaining their team.

Derby v Tottenham
Ardiles is set to return for Tottenham for either Stevens or Samways. Parks continues in goal for Clemence despite suffering a facial injury last week.

Second division

Barnsley v Millwall
Hedworth stands in for Joyce, who is suspended, at right back in the Barnsley team. Dobbin is also suspended. Hurlock has a swollen knee and Wood and Morgan are standing by for Millwall.

Manchester C v Oldham
Bunn, who was signed for £90,000 from Hull, expects to return for Oldham after injury. Suckling makes his first appearance in goal for City since April in place of Nixon, who is suspended. Scott deputises for McNab, who is suspended.

Plymouth v Bradford
Plymouth should be unchanged with Law continuing at left back for Cooper, who has just recovered from a viral infection.

Clough is waiting for Santa

Neil Webb, Nottingham Forest's England midfield player, has given a non-commital response to Brian Clough's plea for him to sign a new contract before Christmas. Clough, the manager, is urging Webb to accept a new contract now rather than wait until the end of the season.

"All I want for Christmas is for Webby to knock on my door and sort out his future. That would be better than having Santa Claus slide down the chimney," Clough said. "I'm even prepared to let him sign for whatever length of time he decides. We are on the verge of something special and we want him to be in the thick of it."

But Webb showed no immediate inclination to accept Clough's Christmas offer. "I don't really want to comment about it. I have still an open mind about things and I may or may not see the gaffer before Christmas, Webb said.

Yesterday, Forest signed Gary Crosby, a left-winger, from Grantham for a fee believed to be around £15,000.

● Peter Barnes, the former England winger, last night stepped down into the third division for the first time in his career. Barnes has signed for Port Vale on a month's loan and will make his debut at Mansfield tomorrow.

● Roger Brown, the manager of Colchester United, has sealed a triple signing for the club. He has signed Tommy Keane, a forward, from AFC Bournemouth, for £5,000, the fee doubling when the player makes his fiftieth appearance for Colchester. Darren Angell, a centre half, has been signed on a month's loan from Portsmouth, and Mark Walton, a goalkeeper on loan from Luton Town, has made a permanent move for a fee of £17,500.

● Dave Mackay, the manager of Doncaster Rovers, has signed Kenny Brannigan, a central defender, from Sheffield Wednesday, on a month's loan.

● Tommy Hutchinson, Swansea's veteran midfield player, goes into hospital next week for an operation to cure a long-standing groin injury.

Venables must explain his criticism of referee to FA

Terry Venables has denied making a comment about a referee which could land him in trouble with the Football Association.

The FA's disciplinary committee have written to the new manager of Tottenham Hotspur asking him to explain comments he made after last Sunday's 1-0 home defeat by Charlton Athletic. Venables claimed the referee, Ray Lewis should have disallowed the Charlton goal because of a foul on the Spurs goalkeeper, Tony Parks and he was quoted in one national paper as saying: "I don't blame the players, I blame the referee."

"I'm sure I didn't say that," Venables said yesterday. "I know I said it was a bad decision but they are saying I blamed the referee, which is a bit more severe."

If the FA are not satisfied, Venables could face a charge of bringing the game into disrepute. But the Tottenham manager is hoping he can prove his innocence through a tape recording of the press conference believed to have been made by a club official.

Spurs have had an £80,000 bid for the Boston United goalkeeper, John McKenna turned down by the Vauxhall Conference side. Venables made the offer for McKenna, aged 25, after losing out to Newcastle in the race to sign the Weymouth goalkeeper, Peter Guthrie, who is expected to sign in a deal worth £100,000. The Boston manager, George Kerr wants at least that for McKenna, who signed for the club at the start of the season

● Mark Dennis has been cleared to play in the Christmas holiday matches by the FA. The Queen's Park Rangers full back was to have started a 53-day ban on Christmas Eve but an appeal by the club means that Dennis will be free to play until the appeal is heard in the New Year.

● Reuter - Hajduk Split's appeal against a two-year ban from European club competitons because of a tear gas incident at their Cup Winners' Cup tie against Marseille was rejected yesterday by the European Football Union (UEFA). The match on November 5 was marred by a 30-minute interruption after the explosion had led to a stampede in which one person was seriously hurt and several others slightly injured.

Spriggs goes

Steve Spriggs, formerly captain of Cambridge United, has walked out on Middlesbrough. The midfield player, aged 31, rejoined the Ayresome Park club on a monthly contract last week after a spell in Cyprus.

Archibald determined to revive Blackburn

By a Special Correspondent

Steve Archibald scarcely had time to draw breath yesterday as he made his surprising switch from sunny Barcelona to the chill winter of Blackburn.

Brief introductions at the ground were followed by a gruelling training period, a hot bath and meet-the-media session. After the club doctor had put the Scot through a medical check, his new chairman William Fox said: "The town has got to respond. Although it is the last Saturday before Christmas we are looking to people to reward the enterprise of our manager. Another 3,000 or 4,000 every game from now on is what we are hoping for."

Don Mackay, the club's manager, who returned to Blackburn at 3.30am yesterday from his three-day visit to Barcelona, said: "I was prepared to go after him.

"He hasn't played a competitive game since May and the fact that we are a second division club was irrelevant," Mackay added after completing negotiations for Archibald's complex six-month loan.

Mackay and Archibald himself firmly denied reports that the player would be paid £6,000 a week. The manager said: "He will be paid by us as our other players are paid although we also have an arrangement with Barcelona. I am not saying what that is, but all the parties are happy with it."

Archibald said: "Blackburn took the trouble to come after me, showing the personal touch. If I can do for them what Kevin Keegan did for Newcastle I would obviously be delighted. It has been frustrating not to play football and this move has not been about money.

"Obviously I want to score goals but the Rovers are on a run (12 league games without defeat) and I just want to help keep that going."

Rusty or not, Archibald will make his debut in today's home game against Birmingham when his pulling power will be put to the test.

Glentoran to set the pace at Ballymena

By George Ace

Glentoran, boosted by a mid-week win over Coleraine in the Budweiser Cup final, travel to Ballymena this afternoon confident they will still be setting the pace in the Irish League tonight.

Tommy Jackson, the Glentoran manager, is, however, by no means complacent. "It is never easy to bring points back from Ballymena," he said.

Jackson may be just a little cautious. Glentoran, with the superb Caskey in midfield, possess the greater all-round strength to triumph.

Champions, Linfield, have dropped eight points in their last three games and cannot be overconfident of today's home encounter with Larne. But Roy Coyle, the most successful manager in the League, is confident his team will be in with a shout for honours

Other fixtures are Ards against Glenavon and Portadown at home to Coleraine.

YACHTING

De Savary refuses to back off

By Malcolm McKeag

Showing all the characteristics of Winston the bulldog, his mascot for his 1983 America's Cup campaign with Victory, Peter de Savary was last night determined to hang on at all costs in his fight to be allowed to sail for the Cup in 90-foot superboats.

"I can promise you I do not accept that the matter is closed," he said. "I will not be told to go away." De Savary had just emerged from a three hour meeting with John Connelly, the representative of fellow millionaire, Alan Bond, to discuss tactics in their continuing battle with San Diego Yacht Club.

Ever since being forced by a judgement of the New York State Supreme Court to accept the letter of the 1887 Deed of Gift (which lays down basic rules for the contest) and meet the challenge of New Zealand banker Michael Fay, San Diego harassed that same deed to insist that it can deal with the New Zealand 90-footer individually.

"Then," says Malin Burnham, president of the Sail America Foundation which the club has charged with defending the Cup, "we can get on with the real America's Cup — in 12-metres in 1991."

After his meeting with Connelly, Peter de Savary phoned Bond in Australia to ask the Perth property magnate and gold mine owner to join him in San Diego on January 16 at a meeting he is to seek with the yacht club.

"I am sure with public opinion in the US always on the side of good sportsmanship they will eventually see things our way. They are newcomers to the America's Cup and they must take into account the view of the longest standing competitor in the contest. Out of 27 matches for the America's Cup, Britain has challenged in 20."

Bond claims the San Diegans must meet his own 90-footer challenger having already cashed the $25,000 cheque (about £14,00)which accompanied it along with the $25,000 cheque which accompanied his 12-metre challenge. De Savary has already offered San Diego a draft set of class rules for the new superboats.

Blue Arrow says it is ready to start building at its new facility in Falmouth either a 90-footer for the "Fay America's Cup", or a new 12-metre, first in itsdesign development line for the "real America's Cup", in 1991. Designs for both types of yacht are well advanced and construction of one or the other has been scheduled to start in January 1988.

CRICKET

Dujon cuts a dash with bat

Visakhapatnam (Reuter) — Jeff Dujon, the West Indies wicket-keeper, showed his all-rounder qualities with a polished century on the opening day of the three-day match against the Indian Cricket Board President's XI.

Dujon scored a rapid 123 yesterday as the West Indians scored 347 for nine before Richards declared at the close. Dujon was promoted to No. 3 and relished the opportunity after an opening stand of 80 in 19 overs by Richardson and Simmons. Dujon and Logie shared a third wicket partnership of 100, with the wicket-keeper hitting eight fours and two sixes.

The spinners were forced to shoulder the burden of the attack on a slow pitch and Gopal Sharma made the Indian selectors regret leaving him out the squad for the third Test by working his way through the West Indian batting with 6-105.

WEST INDIANS: First Innings

R B Richardson c Gaekwad b G Sharma	43
P V Simmons b Raman	47
P J L Dujon c Rajput b G Sharma	123
A L Logie c & b Sharma b G Sharma	54
G L Hooper c and b G Sharma	1
E A E Baptiste c and b Raman	22
†I V A Richards c Patel b Raman	6
D A Williams c Gaekwad b G Sharma	10
C G Butts lbw b G Sharma	3
W W Davis not out	20
Extras (b 11, lb 4, nb 3)	18
Total (9 wkts dec)	347

W W Benjamin did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-80, 2-100, 3-202, 4-204, 5-240, 6-249, 7-263, 8-273.

BOWLING: Ranjhir 6-0-31-0; Patel 7-1-30-0; Raman 32-4-94-3; G Sharma 33.5-5-104-6; Gudge 11-1-48-0; Gaekwad 2-0-9-0; A Sharma 2-0-15-0.

PRESIDENT'S XI: A D Gaekwad, †S Viswanath, L S Rajput, S V Manjrekar, S Gudge, A Sharma, W V Raman, G Sharma, Khalid Quaiyim, Rashid Patel, Randhir Singh.

● Bombay (AFP) — The Board of Control for Cricket in India has asked Dilip Vengsarkar, the Indian captain, to explain in Madras on Tuesday why he should not be punished for violating a ban on writing for newspapers during the second Test against West Indies. The Indian team has warned it will be forced to take suitable action if Vengsarkar is charged with a breach of contract.

Horne shows credentials

Jeff Crowe, the New Zealand captain under increasing pressure to drop himself after a string of failures for the final Test against Australia, starting on Boxing Day, was given another shove by one of his own players yesterday.

Phil Horne filled the problem opening position with 125 as the New Zealanders scored 327-6 on the opening day of their fixture against Tasmania in Hobart, while Crowe returned to the middle order and scored 36.

NEW ZEALANDERS: First innings

J G Wright c Cooley b Faulkner	32
P A Horne c Soule b Faulkner	125
A N Jones c Soule b Faulkner	14
K R Rutherford st Soule b Cruse	34
*J J Crowe run out	36
D N Patel c Soule b Hughes	29
E J Gray not out	9
†† D S Smith not out	30
Extras (8 lb, 10 nb)	18
Total (6 wkts, 91 overs)	327

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61, 2-79, 3-170, 4-248, 5-269, 6-293.

BOWLING: Cooley 22-3-83-0; Bower 18-2-57-0; Faulkner 24-9-54-3; Cruse 15-1-66-1; Hughes 14-2-59-1.

SQUASH RACKETS

No change for Stripes

London (Reuter) — Stephen Meads, a late substitute, survived 26 minutes against the world champion, Jansher Khan, in a club match on Thursday night.

Jansher, making his first appearance for Meridian Stripes in the second division of the British national squash league, beat Meads, aged 17, 9-1, 9-0, 9-1.

But the Pakistani's efforts were not enough to stop the Stripes going down 3-2 to the league leaders, Mayflower Lambs, in the clash of London rivals. Stripes stay bottom of the league after five defeats from five matches.

Meads, the reigning British closed under-19 champion, only played Jansher when the club's regular No. 1 had to pull out because his wife was expecting a baby.

MOTOR SPORT

Grand Prix dates are finalized

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SCHOOLS RUGBY UNION

A thrilling recovery by Cumbria

By Michael Stevenson

Yorkshire 18 Group	16
Cumbria 18 Group	14

Yorkshire 18 Group, apparently coasting casually to victory with an interval lead of 16 points, suffered a rude awakening at Halifax yesterday when Cumbria countered with such skill and spirit that they forced themselves back into contention and to within three points of victory.

Yorkshire held out to win by four tries to a goal and two tries but, despite the tacky surface and greasy ball, Cumbria's second half renaissance was a sight to behold, reflecting great credit on the whole side and particularly on Lynch at scrum half and Slater, their excellent left wing. Plummer, Reid, and Lancaster were the best of a lively pack.

Well executed chain-passing among talented backs was the prelude to Yorkshire's first score, a try on the right wing by Hill. Immediately a half break by Maynard set up a try for the speedy Thompson, up in the line from full back, and Thompson's pace carved out the opening for the third try, scored by George. The fourth came direct from a line out, when Adams caught cleanly and crashed over.

Eight minutes into the second half Adams went off injured and at once Lynch, well supported by Lancaster, started to prise open the gaps. After a fierce drive by Plummer had given Reid his chance to pick up and battle his way over. Skinner converting, two splendid blind side breaks by the Lynch fashioned two tries for Slater. But Yorkshire pulled themselves together and finished the game on the attack.

SCORERS: Yorkshire: Tries: Hill, Thompson, George, Adams. Cumbria: Tries: Reid, Slater (2). Conversion: Skinner.

YORKSHIRE 18 GROUP: R Thompson (Silcotes); J George (Leeds GS), P Bingham (Ampleforth), P Maynard (QEGS Wakefield), G Hill (Leeds GS); J Appleyard (Silcotes), R Booth (Ampleforth); M Curtis (Ripon GS), J Anderson (Bradford GS), S Smith (Bradford GS), G Adams (Batley GS, rep: G Cullen), R Carrington (Wakefield District College), M Sowerby (QEGS Wakefield), A Boag (Bradford GS), J Mitchell (Bradford GS, capt).

CUMBRIA 18 GROUP: S Tait (QEGS Kirby Lonsdale); D Marshall (Stanburn), A Skinner (Sedbergh), D Nisbet (Netherhall), J Slater (Millom); A Southwell (Netherhall), M Lynch (Caldew); S Burnett (Austin Friars), M Plummer (Austin Friars), M Gregg (Lake's), N Holden (Dallam), S Reid (St Bees), A Kitchen (Millfield), S Lancaster (St Bees, capt), M Sutton (William Howard School).

Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire)

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final pool: Bologna (It) 90, Elitzur Netanya (Isr) 81. Caserta: Caserta (It) 93, Cibona Zagreb (Yug) 105; Paris: Racing Club Paris 97 (Sleppe 21, Jackson 16, Dubuisson 17), Manchester United 88 (Fogerty 22, Gardner 21, Byrd 19, Jones 13); Villeurbanne: Villeurbanne (Fr) 109, PAOK Salonika (Gr) 98; Madrid: Real Madrid (Sp) 117, Monaco 81; Zaragoza: Zaragoza (Sp) 95, Arexons Cenu (It) 85.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP: Semi-finals, third series: Mens: Barcelona: Barcelona 84, Partizan Belgrade (Yug) 69; Sibenik: Elemes Sibenik (Yug) 100, Linzer Cesana (It) 83; Salonika: Aris (Gr) 107, Saturn (WG) 101.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final, Group A: Leverkusen: Bayer Leverkusen (WG) 111, Kingston (Eng) 97.

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Philadelphia 76ers 106, New York Knicks 86; Washington Bullets 115, Indiana Pacers 111 OT; Chicago Bulls 111, Cleveland Cavaliers 100; Los Angeles Lakers 113, Golden State Warriors 108; Los Angeles Clippers 99, Houston Rockets 92; Seattle Supersonics 114, Sacramento Kings 108.

SNOOKER

BRISTOL: English Professional Championships: Third round: T Meo (Morden) bt F Davis (Denbigh), 6-3; W Thorne (Leicester) bt R Marshall (Exeter), 6-3; D Reynolds (Grimsby) bt D Gilbert (Hornchurch), 6-3; J Virgo (Guildford) bt L Dodd (Stourport), 6-3; J Parrott (Liverpool) bt E Lawlor (Nuneaton), 6-3; T Knowles (Bolton) bt J Wright (Bow), 6-2; J Wych (Wimbledon) bt M Clark (Sledgley), 6-5; N Foulds (Renwick) bt G Wilkinson (Kirkby-in-Ashfield), 6-3.

FOOTBALL

SCHOOLS MATCH: Gillette Trophy: Fifth round: Leeds 0, Salford 1.

KUALA LUMPUR: Merdeka tournament: Semi-final: South Korea 1, Malaysia 0. (South Korea meet Yugoslavia in final).

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCHES: In Kuwait: Kuwait 2, Iraq 1. In Riyadh: Saudi Arabia 1, Qatar 1.

CAIRO: African Champions Cup final second leg: National SC (Egypt) 2, Al-Hilal (Sudan) 0 (Nabospi won 2-0 on agg).

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Boston Bruins 3, Vancouver Canucks 2 OT; St Louis Blues 2, Hartford Whalers 0; Philadelphia Flyers 4, New York Islanders 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 7, New Jersey Devils 4.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Public schools singles championships: Jim Beer Cup (Under 15): Final: M G Windows (Clifton) bt M Wigg (Eton), 4-15, 15-8, 15-3. Ingleborne Webber Cup (Under 16): Second round: W Thorp (Marlborough) bt S R Chapman (Malvern), 15-1, 15-3; E A Davies (Harrow) bt M G Pelliser (Wellington), 15-1, 15-2; O C R Brice (Tonbridge) bt R W Tramble (Rugby), 15-5, 15-12; R Saunders (Winchester) bt M Ward (Winchester), 15-8, 15-8; J M R Norden (Eton) bt M W Harris (Harrow), 15-11, 15-7; E G M Lea (Eton) bt C D N White (Harrow), 15-4, 15-9, S Lear (Marlborough) bt R Turrell (Winchester), 15-5, 15-12; A M H Orchard (Harrow) bt G J Farm (Wellington), 15-2, 15-0.

TABLE TENNIS

HAVLICKUV BROD, Eastern Bohemia: European super league: West Germany 4, Czechoslovakia 2. Individual results: (West German names first): J Rosskopf bt Petr Javurek, 21-18, 21-14; G Boehm lost to T Janci, 21-18, 18-21, 14-21; O Nemes bt R Kasalova, 21-11, 21-17; Rosskopf and Boehm lost to P Javurek and Janci, 15-21, 21-10, 17-21; Rosskopf and K Nolten bt J Javurek and A Satarova, 21-15, 21-18; Boehm bt P Javurek, 21-17, 21-14; Rosskopf lost to Janci, 21-23, 14-21, 20-22.

SKIING

MONTE CAMPIONE, Italy: European Cup: Giant slalom: Women: 1, P Magoni-Storza (It), 2min 07.62sec; 2, H Berger (Fr), 2.08.20; 3, K Tertzen (US), 2.08.65. Overall: 1 equal, C Guignard (Fr), Storza-Magoni, 34pts; 3, Barber, 30.

HOCHFILZEN, Austria: Biathlon World Cup: Men 20km: 1, F Fischer (WG) 1hr 0.36sec; 2, A Popov (USSR), 1.07.43.6; 3, H Pessler (It), 1.08.09.3. World Cup standings: 1, F Fischer (WG) 30 pts; 2, A Popov (USSR) 26; 3, J Passler (It) 24.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: New South Wales 226 for 3 (S Waugh 128 not out) v Victoria. Brisbane: Western Australia 217 (T Moody 89; D Tazelaar 6-52) v Queensland 9 for 1

SQUASH RACKETS

No change for Stripes

London (Reuter) — Stephen Meads, a late substitute, survived 26 minutes against the world champion, Jansher Khan, in a club match on Thursday night.

Jansher, making his first appearance for Meridian Stripes in the second division of the British national squash league, beat Meads, aged 17, 9-1, 9-0, 9-1.

But the Pakistani's efforts were not enough to stop the Stripes going down 3-2 to the league leaders, Mayflower Lambs, in the clash of London rivals. Stripes stay bottom of the league after five defeats from five matches.

Meads, the reigning British closed under-19 champion, only played Jansher when the club's regular No. 1 had to pull out because his wife was expecting a baby.

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Clash with Kelly widens Maxwell's rift with League

By Ian Stafford

The rift between Robert Maxwell and the Football League widened last night when the newspaper publisher and Graham Kelly, the League secretary, clashed over a report that Maxwell had bought a 10 per cent stake in Marler Estates, the owner of Queen's Park Rangers and the controller of both the Chelsea and Fulham grounds.

Maxwell, who categorically denied the report, was furious that Kelly had commented on it without checking the facts with him. Maxwell said: "As an official employed by clubs, Kelly's correct stance would have been to telephone me to discover if there was any truth in the fairy tale, and not to lend his authority to it without ascertaining what the facts were."

Kelly, reacting to the first news of the alleged Marler purchase, had said: "If the news about Maxwell is true it illustrates the correctness of the League's stance and demonstrates the need for the regulation we will be putting to clubs on January 19."

At next month's extraordinary meeting the 92 clubs in the Football League will be asked to strengthen regulation 80 in the rules that states that one man can only have controlling interests in one club.

"We have power in the management and administration of clubs but we need to go much further," Kelly added. "The management committee will need to have some say in the holdings of clubs."

Maxwell issued a response denying all the allegations of any Marler purchase. The allegation had been made amid rumours in the city that companies related to the multi-millionaire had bought Marler shares in the stock market last week.

It read: "The statement in the London *Evening Standard* that I have acquired a 10 per cent stake in Marler Estates plc, and through them an interest in Queen's Park Rangers, and Chelsea and Fulham's grounds, is a malicious lie.

"There is absolutely no truth in the story whatsoever and a writ will be issued against the newspaper. The clear purpose of inventions such as these is to damage me in my current dispute with the Football League."

Maxwell, who is still embroiled in his long-standing argument with the Football League concerning his intentions to take over the control of Watford, threatened to quit football after the League management committee demanded earlier this week that he dispose of his interests in Derby County, Oxford United and Reading before purchasing Watford for £2 million.

Reports of Maxwell's interest in Marler Estates did not come, however, as a total surprise to the property company's chairman, David Bulstrode, who took over control at Queen's Park Rangers earlier this year. He said that he had heard the rumours a few days ago but "the market abounds with rumours. To get any say the buyer would have to make a successful bid for the company and that would mean buying at considerably more than the present share price, so there is a long way to go."

Marler has an 80 per cent control of Chelsea's ground, Stamford Bridge. The club's chairman, Ken Bates, was granted planning permission on Thursday night to develop on the site and buy the ground from Marler.

Bates was the only member of the management committee not to object to Maxwell's planned purchase of Watford, but has dismissed rumours linking Chelsea with financial support from an important figure already involved in other football clubs.

Argentine tonic to revive Tottenham

By Clive White

Ossie Ardiles, whom Terry Venables appointed as acting player-coach in the interim period before he arrived himself at White Hart Lane, will hope to inspire Tottenham Hotspur to their first victory under their new manager when he returns from injury tomorrow in the televised game against Derby County at the Baseball Ground.

As well as being Ardiles's first game for Venables, it will be the first time that Tottenham have been seen by television viewers since the former Barcelona manager succeeded David Pleat last month. Since then they have suffered two more defeats and it is now 10 matches since Tottenham last tasted the sweetness of victory.

With Hoddle long gone, Waddle yet to rediscover his early season poise and Ardiles, aged 35, absent ill then injured, Tottenham have been without a creative force in midfield. Stevens or Samways will make way for the Argentine, who was performing with great gusto before Venables's arrival.

The return of another inspirational Tottenham veteran, Clemence, is delayed by lack of fitness after injury, so Parks continues in goal despite suffering injuries of his own last week when, with a courage peculiar to goalkeepers, he went down at the flying boots of a Charlton forward. Apart from facial injuries he also bit through his tongue and has been unable to eat solid food since.

After home defeats to Liverpool and Charlton, Venables still cannot escape the glare of the spotlight. Tottenham will do well to win at Derby, who recently won at home to Chelsea in another televised game.

Venables seems unconcerned by the mounting pressure following his much-heralded arrival.

Hungary date

Hungary have agreed to fill a void in England's European championship build-up. The Hungarians have invited England to play in Budapest on April 27 after Portugal had pulled out of a fixture arranged for that date. England have won their last two matches in Budapest in the 1982 World Cup and the 1984 European championship.

Council to take over home team

By Ian Stafford

In an unprecedented move in English football, Peterborough City Council is on the verge of taking control of the troubled fourth division club, Peterborough United, to become the country's first local authority to wholly take over a club in the history of the League.

Peterborough, struggling with debts of £500,000, have been in the hands of administrators specially appointed by the High Court since October, but now there is a move, supported by all political parties, for a council rescue package.

The council's plan, officially presented to the club's administrators, Richard Summerfield and David Morgan, yesterday, involves the purchase of Peterborough United for £1.5 million by a property development company. They will then do a land swap, receiving a prime building site while the club and their London Road ground go to the council.

The authority then intend appointing directors of wide business experience to run the football club on a tight financial footing and insist that there will be no burden to ratepayers.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to secure the future of Peterborough United and we have come up with a cashless deal which puts no authority money at risk," Charles Swift, the City Council's leader, said.

The council proposals have been unofficially welcomed by the administrators. "I think the plan is very satisfactory and hopefully progress will now be made," Steve Kendrick, the former club chairman, added.

Although a novel venture in British football, the running of clubs by local authorities is not new on the Continent, especially in top French football. Councils have proved successful in their handling of clubs such as Bordeaux, St Etienne and Paris St Germain, three of France's leading first division teams.

Peterborough City Council's argument is that few other sources of leisure can provide a similar level of entertainment for 4,000 at least every other week. With other Football League clubs teetering on the edge of financial collapse, Peterborough's move might begin a sequence of similar events around the country.

Juventus lose their appeal

Milan (Reuter) – The Italian league yesterday upheld a decision to reverse a win by the first division club, Juventus, last month because of a firework incident.

Juventus appealed against the decision, which had meant they slipped from third to fifth place in the division. The League had reversed the Turin team's 2-1 win, awarding it 2-0 to their visiting opponents, and also imposed a 20 million lire (about £8,900) fine.

The decision followed an appeal by Cesena in which their defender, Dario Sanguin, collapsed after a firework hit a temporary players' tunnel.

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Qadir as batsman torments England again

Patient Aamir bats out the day

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Karachi

After taking two early wickets England were held up and finally worn down by some resolute batting when the third Test match was continued here yesterday. This means, almost certainly, that the series will go to Pakistan.

With Aamir Malik batting through the day in only his second Test innings, Pakistan led by 51 runs at the close of play and still had two first innings wickets left. It is the rest day today and the match ends on Monday.

Not long after ten o'clock England were able even to have visions of winning. By five o'clock, when the long and hot day ended, the position had been reversed. Although the pitch is slow enough for a draw to have become the likeliest result, Pakistan have in Qadir the one bowler capable of squeezing a victory out of the eleven hours left for play. The chances of England winning have now virtually gone.

England wanted yesterday not for perseverance so much as inventiveness, and from Dilley there was some very wild bowling. Where the first two days had produced 222 and 194 runs respectively, both for seven wickets, Pakistan now lost four wickets while adding 223.

Aamir's was a considerable feat of application. He is said to be a stroke player by inclination; but with his survival of prime importance to Pakistan, who need only to draw the match to win their third successive series against England, he allowed himself only a few overs of freedom. This was against the new ball, and particularly against Dilley.

England made the best imaginable start to the day when Salim Malik slashed a long hop from DeFreitas straight to Gatting, standing some 20 yards away on the off side and just behind square. This was a great piece of luck. When Ashraf was then caught at the wicket off Dilley, the ball more pitched up than most of his, Pakistan were 146 for six, still 148 runs behind with only the bowlers to come. In theory they were distinctly vulnerable; yet in the remaining 72 overs of the day only two more wickets fell.

By 11.45 Aamir had batted for two and threequarter hours hours for 14. In his only other Test innings, in Faisalabad, he took 78 minutes to score five. In his first four hours of Test batting, therefore, he had made 19. His play was based on the forward defensive stroke. When Dilley tried to bounce him out, there was a good deal more conviction about Aamir's smile than Dilley's stare.



Stumbling block: Aamir Malik swings for six with Gatting admiring the stroke from slip

For the 90 minutes after Ashraf was out there seemed to be almost more time when nothing was happening than when something was. If it was not the sightscreen that needed moving someone was being brought a drink, and there was the usual traffic in those infernal helmets to hold up play. The morning lasted for two and a half hours, lunch for 90 minutes, ostensibly for prayers.

Except twice, when he drove and then pulled Cook for six, Akram used his long forward reach to thwart the spinners. It was not until the new ball was taken that the tempo noticeably quickened. Then, in nine overs, 58 runs were scored, the majority of them off Dilley, who was freely hooked and cut.

Rather than Pakistan's innings being finished off by the new ball, as England had been hoping, it brought only the wicket of Akram, who mishooked a short one from DeFreitas in the second over of the afternoon. The chances of a useful English lead were gradually disappearing, and at 248 Gooch dropped Qadir at second slip off Dilley, the ball coming straight at him at Adam's apple height. When, soon afterwards, Dilley came off, Aamir went back into his shell. Having gone from 14 to 50 in half an hour, he scored seven in the next hour. For a 24-year old he was remarkably assured and seemingly impervious.

Of the 84 overs England bowled in the day, the minimum quota, 35 were by Emburey and 20 by Cook, and they had nothing but the sweat of their brows to show for them. Although professionally accurate they set few problems in the air, and what turn they got was gentle. Emburey appealed for leg before once or twice, partly perhaps for something to do.

Without a leg spinner to turn to, just for variation, Gatting left the game on automatic pilot. I should have liked to see him take an over himself, or give Gooch one. As it was, Pakistan needed only patience to pass England's score. Once, when Aamir lost his, Cook could have caught and bowled him for 72, a straight and firm but lowish hit going down.

At last, with 40 minutes left, Gatting decided to break with routine and take a chance with Capel's damaged knee, and immediately Qadir was out. Having just gone from 49 to 61 with two straight sixes off Emburey, Qadir was bowled off his pads. On his form yesterday there is not a side anywhere that would scoff at having Qadir at number seven, let alone number nine. This was his best Test score and Capel's first Test wicket.

When England came off, honourably tired and inevitably disappointed, young Aamir had been batting for six and a quarter hours. If he gets his 100 tomorrow it will go at once into the books as one of the slowest on record.

Pakistan board launch Faisalabad inquiry

Karachi – The incident in last week's second Test match in Faisalabad, which led to the loss of a whole day's play, made headlines round the world and did the game of cricket no good whatever, is to be the subject of a two-man inquiry (John Woodcock writes).

Conducting it will be Yawar Saeed, a well known figure in Pakistan cricket, who played for some years for Somerset, and Omar Kureishi, a journalist and, like Saeed a former manager of Pakistan's touring teams.

The England players, who will be at the inquiry's disposal after play tomorrow, may wonder as to Kureishi's impartiality, having read his virulent criticism of their performance at the time of the incident and afterwards. But it is said that the purpose of the inquiry is not to pass judgement so much as establish facts and recommend how such troubles may be avoided in future.

The report will be passed to the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan next week and then, in part, to the Test and County Cricket Board.

SCOREBOARD FROM KARACHI

England won toss

ENGLAND

First Innings 294 (D J Capel 98, J E Emburey 70; Abdul Qadir 5 for 88)

PAKISTAN

First Innings

		6s	4s	Mins	Balls
Mudassar Nazar lbw b DeFreitas	6	-	1	34	22
Ramiz Raja c French b Cook	50	-	5	129	75
Salim Malik c Gatting b DeFreitas	55	-	6	143	121
*Javed Miandad lbw b Emburey	4	-	1	3	2
Ijaz Ahmed run out (Broad/French)	0	-	-	3	3
Aamir Malik not out	91	-	12	376	306
†Ashraf Ali c French b Dilley	12	-	1	40	33
Wasim Akram c French b DeFreitas	37	2	3	112	69
Abdul Qadir b Capel	61	4	6	132	104
Iqbal Qasim not out	10	-	1	48	33
Extras (lb 11, nb 8)	19				
Total (8 wkts, 126 overs)	345				

Saleem Jaffer to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-105, 3-110, 4-110, 5-122, 6-146, 7-222, 8-316.

BOWLING: Dilley 21-2-102-1 (nb 4); DeFreitas 20-3-80-3 (nb 4); Emburey 49-22-88-1; Cook 33-12-55-1; Capel 3-0-8-1.

Umpires: Mahboob Shah and Khizar Hayat.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Roche out of race

Stephen Roche, the world road-race cycling champion and winner of the Tours of France and of Italy this year, has had to pull out of tomorrow's annual Christmas race in Ireland.

He is still recovering at his home on the outskirts of Paris from recent surgery to his left knee, originally injured when he crashed two years ago in the Paris six-day race partnered by Tony Doyle. Despite the injury, Roche will join his new team, Fagor, next month as planned.

Fine decision

A Rugby League Appeals Board today lifted the £50 fines imposed on three Castleford players following an alleged brawl in the game at Hull on October 25. The successful appeals were made by Gary Hyde, Bob Beardmore and John Joyner, but another Castleford player, Martin Ketteridge, had his appeal rejected.



Roche: recurring knee injury

Cash incentive

Sandy Jones, the secretary of the Scottish PGA, said yesterday that a minimum of £375,000 in prize-money would be available for next year's Scottish golf Tour.

Rugby blues

The Oxford University Rugby League team may include Rugby Union Blues for the first time when they play Cambridge in the Varsity match at Headingley on March 15.

Second verdict

Paris (AFP) – The women's world cycling champion, Jeannie Longo, of France, has been cleared by the French cycling Federation of using a stimulant when she set a world 3,000-metres record at Colorado Springs in September. The Federation said there were errors in the testing procedure.

Standing down

John Finlan, the chairman of Midlands rugby selectors, is standing down after 10 years. Finlan presided over victories for the Division against both Australia and New Zealand, and the Divisional championship in 1985.

Out of court

The basketball match between Kingston and Crystal Palace in the semi-finals of the women's National championships tomorrow has been postponed after six members of the Kingston team were involved in a motorway accident. There were no serious injuries.

Becker will be off court for six weeks

Bonn (Reuter) – Boris Becker, the former Wimbledon champion, will take a six-week break from competitive tennis and will miss next month's Australian Open, *Bild*, the mass-circulation newspaper reported yesterday.

The West German, who has a contract with *Bild*, has been receiving treatment in Munich for a chronic knee injury since returning from the Masters in New York last week.

Bild said Becker, his manager Ion Tiriac and new coach Bob Brett had agreed that the player should rest from competition to allow the injury to heal properly.

Becker will return to the courts at the end of January for three exhibition matches with the world No. 1, Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, two in Japan and one in West Germany. His first competition will be the first round Davis Cup tie with Brazil in Essen from February 5-7.

END COLUMN

Jockey Club admits failings

By Michael Seely

In a statement of unprecedented frankness issued yesterday, the Jockey Club, racing's ruling body, shouldered some of the blame for the adverse publicity given to the sport after the Lester Piggott case, as a result of which the most famous figure in racing was jailed in October for three years for tax evasion.

The case followed the disclosure that Henry Cecil, Piggott's trainer, had written to owners asking for ex-gratia payments on top of Piggott's retainer.

Yesterday's statement read: "The stewards very much regret that the action taken in the Cecil letters between 1981 and 1984 was not effective and accept that the interests of all concerned would have been better served if more positive steps had been taken at the time."

Lord Fairhaven, the senior steward of the Jockey Club, commented: "I accept and fully understand the concern expressed by both the public and those involved in racing about certain aspects of the Lester Piggott affair.

Positive action to be taken

"I want them to know that the Jockey Club is now taking positive action to ensure that the rules of racing are designed to cover issues that have been raised by it and I am determined that they will then be energetically enforced."

The two specific areas in which the Jockey Club intends to take action to tighten up their rules cover the registration of retainers between trainers and jockeys and also those involving betting by jockeys, which has always been a strictly forbidden practice in this country.

This particular rule, 62 (II), it considers to have been too narrow and intends to make it more specific and comprehensive covering "a wide variety of situations and broadening the rules to incorporate other persons betting on behalf of jockeys."

The Jockey Club considers that the relevant rules 75 and 76 concerning the registration of jockeys retainers need to be updated. It also intends to draw up a guide for jockeys on matters of tax.

Significantly, it also intends to consult with other "interested parties whether other agreements should be registered as well." This refers to jockeys not only receiving additional payments but also shares in prospective stallions.

Much of the statement is concerned with "considerable speculation about the so-called Henry Cecil Letter and the involvement of Jockey Club stewards at that time."

In 1981, John MacDonald-Buchanan, the then senior steward, who had a horse in training with Cecil, received a letter from the trainer about "registering additional requirements over and above the amount due for Lester Piggott's retainer registered at Weatherbys.

Clear warning of breach of rules

Macdonald Buchanan informed Simon Weatherby, the then secretary of the Jockey Club and Louis Freedman, the deputy senior steward, what had happened and went to see Cecil, warning him that his actions were in breach of the rules of racing. He came away satisfied that what he had said had been "considered, understood and accepted by Cecil." The owner "believed he had acted promptly to prevent a breach of the rules."

MacDonald Buchanan ceased being senior steward in June 1981 and Simon Weatherby died in January 1983. There were no records of the interview or action taken. However, he has emphasised that he took "full responsibility for the action taken in 1981 regarding the Cecil Letter."

In view of the continuing concern about the matter of Piggott's retainer with Cecil, the Jockey Club has also considered the position of other owners with Cecil at that time.

However, a leading Counsel's opinion has stated "Circumstances do not give rise to any breach of rules of racing on their part."